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[SIXPENCE { WITH MUSIC SUPPLEMENT, GRATIS.

ART AND SCIENCE IN ENGLAND.

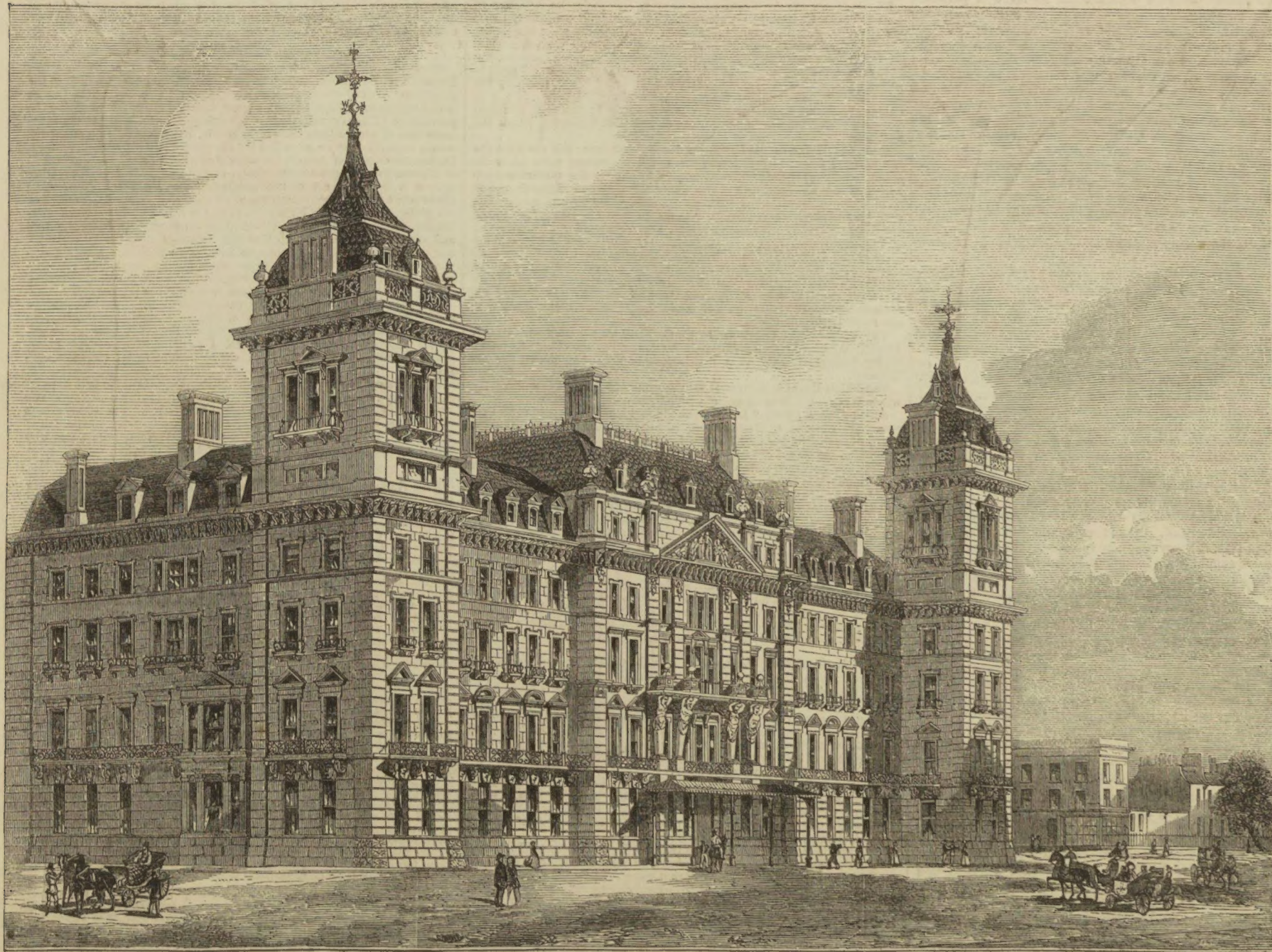
WE desire this week to turn awhile from the political topics which have so long engrossed the public mind, and to devote some portion of our attention to a more graceful and grateful subject. In her Majesty's Speech, at the opening of the present session of Parliament, there was one paragraph of startling but agreeable novelty. It announced—we trust to a sympathetic and approving auditory—that a “comprehensive scheme for the advancement of the Fine Arts and of practical Science” would shortly be laid before the Legislature. That scheme, if not yet matured in all its details, has been sufficiently developed to be made matter of public criticism, and we hasten to devote to it something more than a mere casual notice.

The public has been so much accustomed to be treated only to half confidences in fiscal matters, and to have money extracted from it by little and little, as projects crept into daylight, that it is often startled if the full truth be told, and feels assured that, large though any new project may be, something still larger is kept out of view. But the Royal Commissioners have simply treated the public with that unreserved confidence which served their purpose so well in the Great Exhibition; and they have come boldly forward, telling everything they intend to do; and not even hiding the proportions of any part by keeping it in

the background. Never has such a large and truly “comprehensive” scheme for the promotion of Science, Art, and Industry, been presented to the consideration of the country; and it is easy to see that the design has been sketched by the same master-hand which impressed universality and success upon the Exhibition. The whole is so harmoniously blended that the parts of which it consists lose magnitude, though not position in the result—a total absence of petting any special science or art being, perhaps, its most marked feature. This is precisely what a Prince should do, and no other person could blend contending and special interests, often exaggerated in importance by their advocates, into one common interest of the nation. The Royal author, however, comes before the nation well supported and aided by the most eminent politicians and philosophers of the age, who are associated with him in the Commission, and with the *prestige* of success in an undertaking which many men deemed to be far more chimerical than the present one. This alone would demand the respectful attention of the public; but its general merits leave no unwillingness on our part to enter fully into its discussion. We therefore proceed to sketch its general outline on the present occasion, having already given an abstract of the details upon which it is based.

Notwithstanding the general belief that in England little is done for Science and Art, it may be questioned whether there is any other nation which devotes so much money in the aggregate

to their advancement, although certainly no adequate results flow from the expenditure. More than a quarter of a million is expended every year in the support of metropolitan institutions professing to encourage and develop them both in all their various ramifications; but the results are small. The reason for their want of success should be elicited. The Commissioners declare it to be “want of space and want of system.” The want of space is certainly a crying evil in the metropolis, acting detrimentally in many more ways than those referred to by the Commissioners, and causing some of the more serious evils of our social existence. Our museums, galleries, and colleges were ushered into the world with fair hopes; but, having no room for their natural development, they were cramped and stunted in their proportions; and, becoming despairing and apathetic, they always failed to realise the objects of their founders. Our public museums actually bury their choicest collections in their damp cellars, having nowhere above ground to display them, while the capital expended in amassing them lies dead and useless, and the immense labour employed in procuring them remains hopelessly unproductive. After the immense sums expended in the enlargement of the British Museum, the nation is told that it is quite paralysed from want of space, for the library is eating up the collections, and the collections are devouring the library. Scarcely a year has passed since the public hailed with pleasure the opening of a



THE GREAT WESTERN HOTEL, PADDINGTON.—P. HARDWICK, R.A., ARCHITECT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Museum and School of Mines in Jermyn-street, and we are now told that its collections are rotting in cellars, that its space for instruction is absolutely insufficient, and that it must be immediately enlarged if success be expected to attend its operations. But the public, scared at the expenditure incurred on the twin Museum in Bloomsbury, resolutely button up their pockets and refuse further grants without due consideration—the more resolved on this point, as they hear rumours of fabulous sums being asked for the leases of premises contiguous to it. A national warehouse of pictures—gallery we cannot call it—has grown up to be a hideous excrescence on one of the finest open squares in the capital. Every Englishman blushes to introduce a foreigner to its unmeaning collection; which is not even divided into Schools of Art, and is, therefore, practically useless for instructional purposes to all but a few artists.

But there is a greater evil than this, and that is *want of system*. Marlborough House, the Museum in Jermyn-street, and that in Bloomsbury, use or abuse the public money in buying separate collections of pottery, glass, and metal-work. The Geological Society, in Somerset House, the British Museum, and the Linnean Society make collections of fossils and minerals at great expense, and the Museum in Jermyn-street does the same. The learned societies in the metropolis keep their distinct porters, librarians, secretaries, and clerks, paying separate rents for buildings scattered inconveniently about the metropolis, when a little system would enable the public money, so liberally subscribed by their members, but so injudiciously squandered, to be devoted to the true objects of the advancement of the special sciences; while, at the same time, the labours of their cultivators would be rendered easier by ready means of consultation and reference. These are a few instances of those cited by the Commissioners in evidence of existing evils, and few will be inclined to doubt their force.

The Commissioners come boldly forward, and say to the public "Let us jointly provide the *space* and we will labour to furnish the *system*." So the Commissioners, with the aid of Parliament, have purchased a large property at Kensington, having frontages both to Kensington and to Brompton. Seventy acres are now the property of the public, while 150 acres may be secured—a space ample enough for the growth of the intellectual necessities of the metropolis for many generations. It is at present proposed that the National Gallery shall occupy the elevated site fronting Hyde-park, while an institution like the Commercial Museum, or Museum of Manufactures, is to be established on the corresponding site fronting Brompton; the central portion being devoted to Societies, and the two wings to furnish accommodation for the departments of Practical Science and Practical Art. The special interests are invited to co-operate in carrying out the scheme; and, provided that they merely accept the common system so as to economise public powers and resources, they may do so in the most free and unfettered way. Already some of them, as the Royal Society, forgetting that the sacrifice of the individual comfort of some of their members may end in great public advantage, protest against the site, but would gladly accept the advantages of the system in some hypothetical site of their own, which they are not likely to find. But it will be their own loss if they do not accept the scheme in its integrity, as they are at perfect liberty to do. The Commissioners inform the Government, that it would be better, and actually cheaper, to build new museums and schools here, rather than attempt to cobble up new additions, which, at the best, will only afford a temporary relief. The building of the British Museum is not larger than that required for its rapidly-growing library, and its valuable antiquarian and historical treasures. Its scientific collections ought to be removed to some place where they may be seen and used for instruction—for at present they are as dead and useless to the public as the extinct animals which form so large a portion of them. The building in Jermyn-street is, perhaps, not larger than that properly required for the geological survey of the kingdom, and for the collections of fossils forming the only evidences of that great national work; but if its industrial collections and its staff of instructors were removed to the great site at Kensington, they might be made useful to the public through the national collections generally. The schools of design are rapidly increasing in importance, but are so badly provided with accommodation, that the lady artists receive instruction while sitting on the benches of the kitchen in Marlborough House. Government must provide immediate accommodation for these schools; but, by all means, let it be done on that site where the scholars will be cultivated in taste by the National Gallery, then worthy of the name, while they will learn the wants and resources of industry from the School of Manufactures, to which every collection is to lend its instructional power.

This last conception is the grand and leading one of the Commissioners. Museums are found to be of little use to any one but ready-formed philosophers, unless accompanied by oral instruction or practical demonstration. The principles of Art and Science are indeed the foundation-stones of an advanced manufacturing industry, and this fact in political philosophy has received the unanimous confirmation of a deliberate vote in the House of Commons. It is now felt, as a State necessity, that we must cultivate at home the intellectual element of manufacture, and not allow it to flourish and fructify only on the Continent. Truly did the Chancellor of the Exchequer declare that the competition of industry is resolved into one of intellect; and that, unless we enabled our industrial population to acquire this element of power, our position as an industrial nation would be seriously affected. But, having adopted this as a principle of State, Government must go forward in its own perception of the truth, and act, as it has already done in the case of Art, even in advance of the public demand. Ignorance is not likely to ask for that knowledge what it knows not how to value. We do not mean that Government should force industrial instruction like an exotic, but it must take steps to develop it, and secure the sympathies of the people, and of the provinces in its behalf. The central institution can only be of use in so far as it expresses the overflowing wants of the manufacturing towns, and it is far more essential to develop the intellectual element in these, than to raise suddenly a metropolitan tree, which, having no roots branching into and deriving nourishment from the provinces, would have a very ephemeral existence, and be not worth the trouble of tending. We are well aware that the Commissioners, and we trust the Government also, fully recognise the importance of this truth; but it necessary that they should act upon it quickly, if they wish their scheme to prosper. We shall watch with interest the development of the undertaking, convinced as we are that it is one of the very greatest importance to all classes in this country.

THE GREAT WESTERN HOTEL.

THE hotels in the northern and western parts of London are few in number, and are very inadequate to supply the wants of those large and populous portions of the metropolis. Added to this, the increasing traffic of the Great Western Railway has made the want of a large and well-managed hotel near its terminus to be generally acknowledged.

Early in last year, the directors determined to endeavour to supply this want; and accordingly gave instructions to Mr. Hardwick, R.A., the architect, to prepare plans for an hotel, upon a very complete scale in all its internal arrangements; and which should, at the same time, form a handsome termination to the new station, then recently commenced under the direction of Mr. Brunel, their engineer.

Towards the end of the month of April, last year, the new Hotel was

commenced; and great credit is due to Messrs. Holland, the contractors, who nearly completed the building within fourteen months.

The number of bed and dressing-rooms provided in the hotel is 112; of sitting-rooms, 15; but many of these are in *suites*, consisting of bedroom, dressing, and sitting-room—an arrangement frequently found in the great hotels on the Continent, but not common in this country: its comfort, however, can scarcely be too highly rated.

On each floor, extending the whole length of the building, is a gallery, from which the various rooms open. At convenient places, on each floor, are bath-rooms, &c. On the ground-floor are a series of sitting-rooms; and at one extremity of the building are rooms intended for the purposes of a club-house, to which there will be an entrance distinct from the hotel.

The chief coffee-room, occupying the height of the ground story, and that above it, is a highly-decorated saloon, 59 feet long, by 30 feet wide, and 27 feet high, exclusive of the area of one of the towers: it is divided by columns imitating Sienna marble, with white capitals, above which is an order of terminal figures, and a deeply-coffered ceiling, with coloured mouldings.

The whole of the staircases and passages in the building are fire-proof, and the workmanship throughout is excellent. Extending along the front over the pavement, to a distance of about sixty feet, will be a verandah, to enable persons to get out of their carriages and enter the hotel, sheltered from the weather, without impeding the regular footway. There will be a covered way from the hotel to the departure and arrival sides of the new station, so that passengers may walk to the hotel without the necessity of using any conveyance. Porters will be on the platform to carry the luggage.

The style of this important edifice imitates the French of Louis XIV., or later, and the curved roof-forms are a striking novelty here. Four colossal termini, finely modelled by Mr. Thomas, support the balcony over the entrance. Over them are casts of the Warwick Vase. In the pediment above is a group of allegorical figures, also by Mr. Thomas, which we shall hereafter illustrate. The whole exterior is of stucco, and the ornaments and projections are in rich, bold style. The design is, throughout, a magnificent specimen of Mr. Hardwick's taste and skill. It is expected to be finished in March next.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Dec. 15.

Abd-el-Kader has taken his final departure from the land of his long and weary captivity. Accompanied by his family and companions, in all forty-two persons, he passed through Paris on Saturday, stopping at the station of the Lyons Railway, to partake of a collation offered by the company in the refreshment rooms. Here the party were visited, stared at, and bidden a final adieu to, by what the newspapers call, various visitors of distinction; the Emir played his rôle of gratitude and attachment to France and the French to the last—a rôle which, we must say, has, from the first, been terribly overdone; the rest of the party appeared tolerably unconcerned, and finally allowed themselves to be packed up in the special train prepared for them, and started for Marseilles, whence they are to be conveyed by the *Orénoque* steamer to Mondania. Abd-el-Kader, late conversing with M. A., an old soldier of the Empire, on the return from Elba, exclaimed, "Ah, there will be no return from Elba for me!" *C'est ce que nous allons voir.*

The marriage of the Emperor continues to be the principal topic of speculation at present, but the most amusing part of the affair is, that though it is generally believed that the event is to take place very shortly, the identity of the future Empress is more a matter of dispute and discussion than ever. The Princess Carola Wasa, says one party, is the Empress of the French elect; we have it on the most unquestionable authority; *c'est une affaire faite*; Napoleon has her portrait, it is being engraved for publication; the betrothal is to take place in January at Vienna; M. De Flahaut is to be the proxy, &c., &c.

The Princess Carola Wasa, says another party, is the Empress of Austria elect; we have it on the most unquestionable authority; *c'est une affaire faite*; all the preliminaries are being arranged; her father has positively refused his consent to the French alliance, &c., &c. You are both wrong, says a third party; we have it on unquestionable authority, &c.; the Princess Carola Wasa is not any more Empress elect of Austria than she is Empress elect of the French; she is to marry the Archduke of Austria; and his Imperial Majesty Napoleon III. is to espouse a Princess of Spain, daughter of the Infant Don François de Paul, whose sister some years since eloped with Gorowski, whom she married.

True, the Princess is *légèrement bossue*, but she has (so says the third party) *beaucoup d'égrenures*; she is not handsome, *mais elle a des beaux cheveux, et elle aime bien sa tante*. What further attractions are necessary for an Empress? The party for the other Spanish match seem to have relinquished their pretensions. Napoleon, meanwhile, with his customary secretiveness, "keeps on never minding" or giving the slightest hint of his real intentions, any more than if he were going off to Gretne-green with a housemaid. He rides about in his *pantalon garance* and *kepi*, and smokes innumerable cigarettes with *Madame de C—* and *Mlle. M—*, when released from the cares of state, just as any *lieutenant de cavalerie* might do in a country garrison. It is only on state occasions that he adopts the imperial attitude. In private his manner and mode of life are still marked by the same simplicity that before distinguished him.

The reports of the Pope's arrival for the *sacre* are renewed with vigour. The *Elysée*, which is being prepared for the reception of any Royal or highly distinguished guests, is, it is said, to be *trépané* by the visit of his Holiness.

The Palais Royal is appointed for the residence of the Roi Jerome, for whose reception it is to be arranged with becoming splendour.

At the Italian Opera "Louisa Miller" has a great and deserved success. The libretto, by Cammarano, is neither more nor less than a translation of Schiller's "Love and Intrigue," with the single exception of making the father of the heroine an old soldier instead of a *maitre de chapelle*; a change which, we think, is far from an improvement. This, however, is but a small matter. The subject, simple, and relating to every-day life and characters, is *relivé* by scenes of the most violent and of the most exciting interest. The music, though partaking of the noisy and more scientific than melodious style of all Verdi's compositions, is yet, in certain points, more generally attractive than they commonly are—while possessing all the usual characteristics that are so highly applauded by the initiated. The choruses, in particular, are remarkably powerful.

At the Théâtre Lyrique "Guillory le Trompette," by Sarmiento, is commencing what promises to be a most successful run. The music is wanting in originality, but it has considerable beauty, gaiety, and entrain, and *sings well*. The libretto is slight, and somewhat extravagant, but contains certain effective scenes, which carry it off well enough.

The Cirque d'Hiver, destined to replace for the winter season the Cirque de Champs Elysées, has opened in the most brilliant manner under the auspices of *sa Majesté Impériale*, who, in his box of crimson velvet, *historié* with the eagle, &c., condescended to regard and applaud the *hauts faits* of *écuyer* and *écuyère*, and to extend his imperial visage into a smile at the delicious *drôleries* of Auriol. The aspect of the *salle* is brilliant in the extreme; nothing can exceed the lightness and elegance of the decorations, which are still further *relivés* by the flood of light poured down upon them.

Alexander Dumas, the indefatigable, is publishing in the *Constitutionnel*, a new work called the "Juif Errant." The plan is of a more historical character than that of the work of Eugene Sue, bearing the same title; the times and scenes through which the "Juif" passes forming the principal subject of the book.

Madame Georges Sand announces that, on the conclusion of "La Case de l'Oncle Tom" (Uncle Tom's Cabin), in the *Press*, she purposes publishing an article on the work in that paper.

The last few days have witnessed the final disappearance of the theatre of, probably, the most frightful crime of modern times. The Hôtel Sebastiani, beneath whose roof the fearful tragedy of the Frassin murder was enacted, has just been levelled to the ground to make way for a new street to run from the Rue de Faubourg St. Honoré to the Champs Elysées, and which will take right through the avenue: the site of the hotel and its gardens was only separated by a wall from that of the Elysée. What a moment of nervous interest when light was first let into those ghastly chambers, from which for years it had been excluded!

What fearful memories were whispered by those stained and faded walls, the dust-covered furniture, which had been the silent witnesses of that scene of blood and mortal terror; which had ever since remained saturated, as it were, with that atmosphere of crime and horror, and now came forth like ghosts to breathe to the living the tale of what they had beheld! It is well that this monument of blood should not remain to tell another generation of the crimes of the present one. The memorials of such deeds cannot stand for either warning or example, and it were happy if the records of them could be as entirely effaced as the theatres of their execution.

The *Journal des Débats* has a sneering notice of the meeting at Stafford-house, for the presentation of an address to the women of America on the subject of slavery. Why does the English aristocrat, says that journal, preach the emancipation of the Blacks, and leave millions of Whites in misery and ignorance? This is a mode of reasoning, which, we confess, always arouses our bile. Never, says this policy, do one good act, because it will call attention to another that is left undone; if you cannot do all, be careful to do nothing; if you cannot clothe a beggar, do not feed him; leave him to starve; or people will say, if you took the trouble of giving him a good meal, you certainly ought to have provided him with a good coat. Of all the words that are constantly in the mouth of the French press, perhaps that of progress is the most so; where, we ask, is progress, according to this reasoning?

Before closing our letter, we perceive an announcement that the marriage of the Princess Wasa is definitively settled with the Prince Albert of Saxony, who has proceeded to Prague, where the ceremony of betrothal is to take place. So much for rumour!

France will have to pay for the Empire. From a calculation which has just been made of the increase to the budget of expenditure for Senate, Council of State, Legislative Body, new Ministries, and extra salaries, and the amount of the Civil List, &c., it appears that the country will have nearly twenty millions to pay annually more than in the time of Louis Philippe. The *Senatus Consultum* settling the Emperor's civil list is officially promulgated. The Emperor is to have one million sterling per annum, besides all the Royal palaces, parks, forests, &c. 1,500,000 francs per annum is allotted for the Imperial Princes, and the amount of dowry for the future Empress is left for after consideration. The total amount to be expended is 25,000,000 francs. The administration of the Civil List is entrusted to M. Fould, with the title of Minister of State and Minister of the Household.

ITALY.

The Austrian musket continues to enforce attachment and fidelity to the Imperial banner. Five more soldiers of the Hungarian regiment now in garrison at Ancona were shot on the morning of the 4th for desertion. Thus a considerable number of men have suffered death since the arrival of the regiment from Bologna, where many had already been shot for the same offence. The poor fellows apparently serve the chivalrous Emperor with no great good will, since they risk, and frequently meet their death, in order to escape from his trammels. The wine shops resound with their revolutionary songs, and cheers for Hungary and Italy—a spirit which excites such distrust in the Austrian general, that he allows none of the soldiers to quit the town singly—only regular parties can pass the gates.

INDIA.

The intelligence from Rangoon comes down to the end of October, but is of very little interest. We have some particulars beyond what were given in our last in reference to the capture of Prome on the 9th of October, which seem to show that the management afloat was not much more skillful than that on shore. A correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* affirms that the large steamers were pushed forward first, when the small ones ought to have been sent on as pilots, and that the consequence was that the *Enterprise* got on shore on one bank of the river and the *Pine Queen* on the other. Instead of clearing the bank of the enemy with the thirty-two and sixty-eight-pounder guns of the steamers, by which they were completely commanded, the landing party were sent off in gunboats with light twelve-pounders, to find their way as they best could under the fire of the enemy, which fortunately for them did not prove either very deadly or persevering. Meanwhile, it is currently reported that the river has fallen so suddenly and to such an extent that the large steamers must remain at Prome for eight months to come. Although we have been for thirty years familiar with the period and amount of the inundation of the Irrawaddy, it seems this season to have taken us as completely by surprise as if we had never before heard of it or dreamt of its existence. Had we maintained Prome when we first captured it, on the 7th of July, we might long before this have been at the gates of Ava, the war over, and everything arranged to our satisfaction.

THE AUSTRALIAN GOLD-FIELDS.

These, by the latest accounts, yield as rich a harvest as ever. Reports from Melbourne to September 7 contain astounding details of the prodigious yield of the gold-fields, exceeding all previous advices, notwithstanding operations were in a great measure restricted, owing to the prevalence of heavy rains. The annual yield amounted to the enormous sum of ten millions sterling, and this, it was confidently expected, would be doubled or even trebled for the year ending September, 1853. During the month of August the weekly arrivals of the precious metal at Melbourne averaged 30,000 ounces, and the beginning of September opened a fair prospect of this prodigious amount being doubled, as thousands of miners were arriving on their way from all quarters of the globe. In the broad light of day, in the centre of the city of Melbourne, the most barefaced and violent robberies were committed. Life and property were so insecure that the colonists were justly alarmed, and have memorialised the home authorities to send cut troops forthwith, the cost of which they insist upon paying, including passage-money. Their arrival will be earnestly looked for as the only panacea for the evils which at present threaten to overwhelm the colony.

Passing on to New South Wales, the gold fields there we find equally productive. The gold is widely distributed, extending from Port Phillip frontier to the southward, and stretching northwards as far as the recently discovered diggings of Bingara, a distance of about 400 miles, with a breadth of 150 miles, or an entire area of about 60,000 square miles.

Large quantities of gold arrived in Melbourne within the first days of September, and £400,000 of specie were imported into the colony in the last week of August and the first week of September. The Government escort from Ballarat brought to Melbourne and Geelong on the 4th of September, 4627 ounces; and on the 6th, the Victoria escort company brought 33,805 ounces—making a total of 38,433 ounces.

THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1853.—THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENTS.—The progress of this important undertaking is now watched with the deepest interest, not only in the United Kingdom, but also throughout the greater portion of Continental Europe. The principal cities of France, Belgium, and Prussia, will be exhibitors, headed respectively by the Emperor Napoleon, and their Majesties King Leopold and Frederick William IV., each of whom has graciously promised to contribute largely from their private collections, exquisite specimens of the *art*, and *manufatures* of their kingdoms. To this list can now be added the Austrian dominions, arrangements having just been entered into, with the express sanction of the Emperor Francis Joseph, between the Imperial Government in Vienna, and the Imperial Austrian Consulate in London, for the publication and circulation, throughout the whole of the Austrian territories, of the rules and regulations issued by the committee of the Exhibition, for the transport of foreign goods, reception of articles, &c. The Government have likewise been pleased to issue special invitations to all the Austrian manufacturers, to contribute specimens of their handicraft to the Exhibition. The various Chambers of Commerce have also been instructed to collect all applications for space, and to transmit them to Dr. Wm. Schwarz, the Austrian Vice-Consul-General in London, and, as an additional mark of his Majesty's interest in the Exhibition, directions have been issued, that all goods for the Exhibition shall be forwarded over the railways, throughout the Austrian dominions, to the frontiers of Saxony free of every expense to the exhibitors. The Swiss Government are likewise alive to the importance and interest of the Exhibition, a communication having last week been received from M. Prevost at the Vice-Consul of the Swiss Confederation in London, requesting that the fullest information may be immediately forwarded to him, as it is the wish of the leading watchmaker at Geneva, and the other manufacturing towns of Switzerland, to send a choice collection of the beautiful articles for which they are so justly celebrated. The progress which the Exhibition is making in the United States is also very gratifying. Letters have arrived from Mr. Edmond Gratton, the British Consul at Boston, stating that the local committees, under the presidency of Mr. Abbott Lawrence, the late United States Ambassador to England, had been formed at New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, and were actively at work in promoting the interests of the Great Industrial Exhibition of 1853.

THE WESTMINSTER PLAY.—"The Adelphi" of Terence was performed on Thursday night by the Westminster scholars, according to the statutes in such case made and provided. The Prologue for the year, tributary solely to the memory of the Duke of Wellington, was delivered by the captain of the school, Mr. Q. W. F. Twiss, amid much incidental applause. The Epilogue dealt chiefly with the gold discoveries, Mr. Twiss personating a Yankee, ludicrously exaggerated in costume, with much comic gusto. At the termination of the performances the National Anthem was played, while the largesses of the visitors were collected in the treacher caps of the scholars.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

FINANCIAL POLICY.—The Earl of Wicklow on Tuesday moved for certain returns connected with the payment of the Income-tax in Ireland.—The Earl of Derby had no objection to the returns, and earnestly hoped that the momentous question of direct taxation would be speedily decided by the other House. The returns were then agreed to.—At the same time, Lord Montagu moved for certain returns connected with revenue and taxation, and deprecated the substitution of direct for indirect taxation.—The Earl of Derby defended the policy pursued by the Government, but had no objection to the production of the returns. The motion was then agreed to.

ROYAL COMMISSION.—The Royal Assent was, on Thursday, given by commission to the following bills, viz. the Bank-notes Bill, the West India Colonies Loans Act Amendment Bill, and the Commons Inclosure Bill. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Lonsdale, and the Marquis of Salisbury.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.—The Earl of Derby, on the same evening, gave notice that, in the event of the resolutions of the Government being sanctioned by the House of Commons that night, he would, the next day, move the adjournment of their Lordships' House for the Christmas recess. If, however, the resolutions were not agreed to by the other House on that night, he would consider another course to be necessary.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BUDGET.

The adjourned debate was resumed on Monday, by Mr. DAVISON, who said that the Budget was in accordance with the principles of unrestricted competition; and, as an Irish member, he intended to support Lord Derby's Government, because he considered sudden changes of Government productive of great evils to Ireland.

Mr. COBURN, after referring to the preceding speech as an illustration of the evil of different modes of taxation for a United Kingdom, said: With regard to the question before the committee, on the part of the Free-traders he denied that they objected to direct taxation when it was levied equally on all classes of property; but they did not recognise the grievances of gentlemen opposite, or any claim arising out of Free-trade, which entitled them to levy a tax on the towns, in order to relieve property in the country from taxation. He denied that there was any distress which entitled the farmers to ask for compensation: he had just received a letter, which he read to the House, from a farmer in East Lothian, stating that the farmers of the Lothians were never in a more flourishing condition. The hon. gentleman continued: "My objection to the Budget is, that it does not carry out direct taxation fairly and equitably. The proposal now made with regard to the House-tax is most unjust. You impose a Property-tax of 3 per cent on all land and on all houses. You next go to Schedule A. You lay on an additional House-tax of ninepence in the pound, making the tax on houses to be at the rate of 6½ per cent additional as against 3 per cent on land." Then you say, "We want more money by direct taxation," and you come with your scheme of compensation—or rather, I should call it spoliation—and you go to Schedule A again, and lay on another ninepence in the pound on houses, or another 3½ per cent; thus making the tax 10½ per cent on houses as against 3 per cent on land. But this is not all; for we all know that in making an assessment on real property and on houses, you assess houses at a less number of years' purchase than you do land: for land is usually assessed at 30 years' purchase, while houses are only assessed at 15 years' purchase; and, therefore, if you levy the same tax on both of them, you cause a double pressure of taxation. If you invest £1000 in land and £1000 in houses, while the one is assessed at 30 years' purchase and the other at 15, if you lay the same tax on both of them, it is in fact double on the sum invested, making actually 10½ per cent more; and that brings the whole amount you levy on houses up to 21 per cent, and that is what you propose to levy on houses as against 3 per cent on land. That is a great injustice on the part of the Government. I say if you pass such a law, it will be the worse for you; for you will revive the contest between town and country, and not in the old form of a struggle between cotton lords and territorial lords, but you will have arrayed against you every little market-town, on account of the House-tax. Your argument is that this House-tax would be a tax, not on house property, but on rents. I think, myself, that this, as well as every other tax, would ultimately be felt more or less by everybody. But, at all events, as regards the great proportion of house property, it may be shown that you tax the owners as well as the occupiers, inasmuch as there is a large number of houses in the towns which are owned by those who live in them. You have benefit building societies where you frugal mechanics and humble tradesmen manage, in the shape of weekly payments, to get together sums of money sufficiently large to buy the houses they live in, and many of these houses would be generally £10 houses; and in future they will be still more numerous than they have been, for I am glad to say the saving character of this class of society is improving. Well, what kind of justice is it to meet these men, when they have accumulated their savings, with this inordinate taxation? Your notion of justice is that they shall pay 21 per cent on their investment, in proportion to the 3 per cent, which is all that is paid by the owners of the large landed estates. Look to the large properties in this metropolis—say the Belgrave-square property—which are owned by noblemen, and let out on building leases. There you will find houses built upon land which is let probably for 99 years, at a ground rent of at least £50 a year for one house. A person constructs a house on that land, or he buys the house constructed on it and lives in it; and you come to the owner of that house and you tax him, to carry out your direct taxation. But then you don't touch the ground landlord at all; he carries off his £10 or £30 or £50 a year, and escapes you under this system. Let me remind you, further, that the householders in towns are subjected to very heavy charges of another kind, to vast local charges, not only for the support of the poor, but for police rates, for highway rates, for lighting, and for every description of impost. My idea of the Malt-tax is precisely that of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; that it is a tax paid by the consumer. But, undoubtedly, as with all taxes laid on a commodity we produce, the producer is subjected to inconvenience and to loss by it. But I have always understood that the great grievance was an Excise-tax. That does not affect the farmer, it is true, directly; but indirectly it does, and it is that effect on which I would base the claims of the farmers to the repeal of the Malt-tax. It was a farmer—a model farmer, as all his neighbours will allow, and who from the very beginning of our agitation was a Free-trader—I mean Mr. Latmore, of Wneathamstead—who first converted me to the notion of the importance to the farmer of a repeal of the Malt-tax. He said that the farmers would gain immensely by being enabled to feed their cattle with malt. I have accordingly publicly said, that if you could get a surplus large enough to permit you to do without the whole of the Malt-tax, I would be an advocate of its total remission. But I have always said this, too, that I would never be a party to any substitute for the Malt-tax. And I am not less strongly opposed to removing only one-half of the Malt-tax. With regard to the proposed modification of the Income-tax (continued the hon. gentleman), I am bound to give the Government every credit for the way in which they have dealt with that question. I do say it is most remarkable that a Government supported almost exclusively by county members, representing territorial interests only, should have been the first Government to deal—at all events in principle, if not going to the full extent—fairly with the Income-tax as it relates to trades and professions. Most assuredly, that proposal should have come from a Government representing this side of the House. My own opinion is, in spite of all that mathematicians and philosophers may say, that when you are going to levy a tax upon income and property, you must adopt one of two courses—either vary the tax upon incomes, making it less than on property; or take the plan of the United States, and capitalise the whole of the property, whether it is in land, or in capital or stock engaged in trade—capitalise it all, and levy the same rate on all." In conclusion, Mr. Cobden objected to Free-trade being placed in a false position. The people of England would always pay their just debts; but, if over taxed, would commence a stricter scrutiny into public expenditure. He thought our expenditure was excessive; but of the middle classes sent representatives to support it, he would not oppose taxation of the middle classes to defray that expenditure. But he must oppose the imposition of an additional tax, which was designed merely to get rid of the Malt-tax.

Lord J. MANNERS said, if the honourable gentleman who had just sat down had made nothing else plain, he had made it plain that he did not wish for unrestricted competition, but was in favour of that one-sided system of legislation which was more properly termed free imports. The remission of half the Malt-tax could not but increase the consumption of that fine old English beverage which, in spite of the denunciations of the hon. gentleman opposite, was a beverage which would be dear to the working classes so long as they had to endure labour and toil to procure the means of their daily subsistence. It was well, indeed, for the hon. gentleman to read them a protest by a number of learned gentlemen against what they termed the use of alcoholic beverages; but he would ask the hon. member whether he believed in his conscience that any one of those eminent medical gentlemen, for all he had signed his name to the document, would think it necessary to abstain, even for a single day, from the use of intoxicating liquors? But the honourable gentleman, who was bound to obtain for the farmers, in accordance with the principles of unrestricted competition, the remission of the Malt-tax, now entertained grave doubts how far he should be justified as a moral man in voting for a measure that might increase the consumption of beer!

A great number of hon. gentlemen on both sides of the house then rose, amidst some laughter; but they all gave way except Mr. Rich and Mr. Lowe, who had more than once caused some amusement by rising at various pauses in the noble Lord's speech. Eventually,

Mr. Rich obtained possession of the House, who, after excepting to some remarks made by Sir R. Inglis, objected to the credit taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of £400,000 repayment of loans for public works, it being important upon principle to maintain the distinction between money being owing to the public debt and money raised for the service of the year. Should this item be disallowed, there would be no surplus. He then exposed the impolicy of partially repealing the Malt-tax, and of extending the incidence of the House-tax and the Income-tax, especially the mode of applying the latter tax to Ireland. The Budget, he contended, was a compensatory and penal budget, at once unjust and dangerous.

Sir R. INGLIS made a short explanation.

Mr. Lowe doubted the soundness of the principles of finance upon which the Budget was founded, and questioned the correctness of Mr. Disraeli's views respecting emigration, and the wisdom of accelerating it by shifting the public burdens to the class most likely to emigrate. With regard to the Malt-tax, the reduction of which was the keystone of the Government scheme, it appeared to him that if any benefit was to result from it to the producer, it would be in the direction of a rise in the price of barley, which was not probable. The tax formed a very large portion of the revenue; it was paid with less discontent than any other portion; and what was to be got in exchange for the moiety remitted? If the beer trade was under free competition, cost, as in other trades, would regulate price; but there was not in the country so iron a monopoly as that of the brewers; and the notion that the remission would materially lower the price of beer was a delusion. The only way to secure a benefit to the consumer was to break up the brewers' monopoly; but that could not be done in any other mode than by abolishing the system of licenses; and then much might be done towards obtaining cheap beer. If, then, there was to be no decrease in the price of malt liquor, there would be no increase in the consumption; and if so, no benefit would accrue to the growers of barley, who would have, moreover, to compete with the manufacturers of foreign malt. He could not consent, therefore, to injure our revenue in so vital a point. With respect to the Budget itself, he could imagine no more vicious principle for a Chancellor of the Exchequer to act upon than to purchase a momentary popularity by repealing taxes prospectively. The repeal of half the Malt-duty was not to take place until the 10th of October next. Mr. Lowe, having subjected the financial calculations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to a severe examination, contended that they were not trustworthy in respect to charges as well as receipts; that he had assumed amounts of surplus for which he had no sufficient data; and insisted upon the impolicy and danger of relinquishing, in such a state of things, so large an amount of revenue.

Mr. A. MILLS was ready to recognise the principle of extending the area of the House-tax; but was not prepared for the remission of any part of the Malt-duty, which he thought was a very serious and an uncalled-for sacrifice.

Mr. BASS denied that there was any brewers' monopoly; Mr. Lowe, he observed, might become a brewer to-morrow. In the brewing trade skill, industry and capital were all that were required. Mr. Bass entered somewhat fully into details of the operations of malting and brewing, and strongly recommended the entire remission of the malt duty.

Lord A. VANE supported the Government scheme. The remissions of taxes would be a great benefit to the poor, and he thought the increase of the House-tax fair and just.

Mr. F. PEEL said, before they agreed to the increased House-tax, they should know what was the emergency that called for it, what were the commercial advantages to be purchased by this direct tax. If direct taxation was to answer, it must be laid on by a friendly and discriminating hand, and not in a spirit of retaliation.

Mr. WALPOLE referred to the admissions which had been made in the course of debate, by which the question had been narrowed. The principal objections were to the increase of the House-tax, and to any remission whatever of the Malt-duty. The principles and the objects of the Budget were three—first, to adhere unreservedly to the existing commercial system, the object being to make the prime necessities of life as cheap as possible; secondly, if any particular interest were found to have experienced injury, to relieve it, and to enable it to meet unrestricted competition; thirdly, to deal with the taxation of the country, so that all who ran the Free-trade race might do so fairly. Mr. Walpole proceeded to exemplify the manner in which the principles were carried out; the first, in the reduction of the duties on malt and tea; the second, in the mode in which the three suffering interests had been dealt with, that of agriculture being incidentally benefited by the reduction of a tax which pressed immediately upon the consumer; the third, the readjustment of direct taxation, in the extension of the area and limit of the House-tax, and in varying the relations of the Income-tax. Mr. Walpole reviewed and replied to the objections offered to both these readjustments of existing taxes. He noticed in particular the objection of Lord John Russell, that the modifications of the Income-tax had multiplied the exemptions; and that of Mr. Gladstone, that they had broken faith with the public creditor. The right hon. gentleman concluded with a warm eulogy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Budget he had introduced.

Mr. GOSBURN opposed the Budget from no other motive than an adherence to principles upon which he had always acted when administering the finances of the country. The question was, whether those finances were in a state in which we could afford to part with £2,500,000 of taxation, the least oppressive to the country, at the risk of creating a deficiency. The surplus of £400,000, which Mr. Disraeli had calculated upon at the end of the next financial year, depended upon contingencies which might convert it into a deficiency; and it was a questionable kind of courage which impelled him to spend money he had not got, and risk the safety of the country by a remission of taxes which would be of no benefit to the consumer nor any sensible relief to the taxed. The increased House-tax, though it avoided some of the defects of the existing tax, had faults of its own which would be fatal to its continuance; but it was superfluous to discuss its merits, since he objected to the remission of the tax which it was intended in part to replace. Mr. Gosbourn disputed the conclusions of Mr. Walpole on the subject of the contract with the public creditor, which he believed with Mr. Gladstone would be violated by the proposed modifications of the Income-tax; and pointed out other objectionable features in these modifications. Upon grounds affecting the public credit he viewed, he said, with alarm the proposals of the Government, and he implored the House to avoid a measure which would damage the best interests of the country, inflicting equal injury upon manufacturers and agriculture.

Lord JOCELYN on Tuesday opened the adjourned debate. He congratulated the Government upon taking up a position which would relieve them from the imputation of clinging to office in the face of a hostile majority. He disagreed with some of the propositions contained in the Budget; but, taking it as a whole, he could not but accept it, because he believed it to be founded upon two just principles—the readjustment of direct taxation, and the reduction, as far as possible, of the duties pressing upon the consumer throughout the country.

Mr. OSBORNE asked the reason of the universal disappointment with which the Budget was received? Was it not because of the magnificent promises which the right hon. gentleman had held out? The prospective programme, in fact, was so magnificent that provincial people came to the conclusion that the right hon. gentleman had by some means got hold of the philosopher's stone, and that a fiscal millennium would ensue, when the tax-gatherer would cease to persecute, and the Consolidated Fund would be found the open refuge for all distressed mankind. So far as he could understand the matter, they had in this Budget an ingenious attempt to transfer £2,500,000, hitherto raised by means of the excise on all alike, to a class—the £10 householders—which was not supposed to be very favourable to the present Government. And there was this peculiarity about the Budget, that while all new taxes were to be immediate, the remissions were all prospective—i.e., were left looming in the future. He thought that this Budget was conceived in a hostile, if not in a revengeful, spirit. He would give his reason for saying so. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had said in his statement of the £10 householders, that they were "revelling" in the result of the repeal of the Corn-laws. That was a phrase which conveyed something distinct to his (Mr. Osborne's) mind. It meant to say, "You middle classes best us, and got the repeal of the Corn-laws: this is now a scourge for your backs, and you shall pay for it." He (Mr. Osborne) did not want to be led into a debate on direct and indirect taxation, and their comparative merits. All he had to say was, that however alluring direct taxation might be in appearance in an old country, where £60,000,000 of revenue had to be raised, it was necessary to proceed with great caution. In reply to the member for Halifax the Home Secretary said the House-tax was unequal, and he proposed to remedy that inequality by extending it to £10 houses. But why stop there? They were bound, if it were a just tax, to lay it evenly on town and country. What was sauce for their town goose, was equally sauce for their rural gander. He was prepared to argue—and, he believed, in the judgment of all thinking men, to argue with success—that this House-tax was nothing more nor less than a compensation to the agricultural interest. The right hon. gentleman at the head of the Government might not call it compensation, but he knew that the right hon. gentleman at the tail of the Government thought otherwise; and he read Mr. Christopher's recent letter in support of his belief. Passing to the consideration of the Malt-tax, he gave a side hit at tea, the excessive use of which he knew to be productive of several nervous diseases. This fact he considered fully balanced the objections made to beer, which was the national beverage of the people. The diminution of this tax, however, would not cheapen this beverage to any material extent, and would indeed benefit nobody but the brewer and the publican. He condemned the Income-tax as inquisitorial, and therefore demoralising; and reminded the House that it had been imposed originally as a temporary measure, to meet a particular emergency. As for the attempt to discriminate between particular kinds of income, he doubted its practicability, and could not forget that Sir Robert Peel had pronounced it to be entirely impossible. Mr. Osborne next made a good-humoured attack upon Sir E. B. Lytton, whom he accused of political inconsistency, while he eulogised his merits as a man of letters; and alluded particularly to "England and the English," and the recent "Letters to John Bull," for written opinions in contradiction to one another upon the agricultural question now at issue. With regard to Ireland, he considered that that country should take its share of the general burdens, and he warned the Irish members (for whom, on general grounds, he professed great respect), not to allow themselves to depart from that principle. Summing up his conclusions, he called upon the House to reject the Budget as a measure founded upon tyranny and injustice.

Mr. Alderman THOMSON, while objecting to some minor details, defended the Budget generally.

Sir B. HALL was in favour of direct taxation as far as it could be carried out; but direct taxation, if it was unjustly levied, became odious. Entering into details, after some general observations upon the Budget, he made a minute comparison between the relative pressure of the repealed Window-tax and the proposed House-tax in three large towns and sixteen counties. The result of his calculations was that, in the case of the Window-tax the pressure was about equal; while in that of the House-tax there would be in the counties a decrease of fifty per cent, and in the towns an increase of eight per cent in the amount raised. This was the amount of benefit which the farmers were to derive from this measure alone, in addition to that which would accrue to them from the readjustment of the Income-tax and the reduction of the Malt-duties. He protested against legislation in favour of one particular interest, and cautioned the Government as to the safety of such a course. He repeated what he had said on a former occasion, that it was the commencement of another war between

town and country; and he now said that, if the large towns remained quiet, they deserved to have the other half of the Malt-tax repealed next year, together with an increase upon their own peculiar burdens.

Sir J. DUCKWORTH gave his support to the motion.

At the termination of the hon. member's observations, about twenty members rose on the Opposition side of the House; but Mr. HUME caught the Speaker's eye, and proceeded to say that there were one or two specific grounds connected with this question, to which he wished to direct his observations. Entering into some of the subjects contained in the Budget, he complimented the Chancellor of the Exchequer upon the adoption of just and sagacious views in more than one particular. As far as the House-tax was concerned, he objected to the proposed increase, but was for extending the area as far as possible—an avowal which drew forth some expressions of dissent immediately in the vicinity of the honourable gentleman. He praised the Government for the relief proposed to the shipping interest, which, in his opinion, should be freed from all tax or impediment whatever. His objections included the reduction in the malt duties, and all that portion of the Budget which tended to any increase in taxation. Adverting to the question of direct taxation, he spoke of the assessed taxes as a peculiar grievance, and stated that the amount raised by these duties might be covered by a uniform tax of five per cent upon real property. What the country wanted, in short, was an entire re-arrangement of its financial system upon an intelligible basis.

Sir E. DEERING defended the Budget in principle and with regard to most of the details. He was for entire repeal of the malt and hop duties; but would accept the compromise as it stood.

Sir J. GRAHAM wished to understand from the Chancellor of the Exchequer the position in which the House stood with reference to the motion before it?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained. In order to conduce to the general convenience of the House, the Government proposed to take the decision of the House before the holidays upon the first resolution only—which was the one relating merely to the question of the area of taxation.

Sir J. GRAHAM expressed his surprise (amidst loud cheers from the Opposition) that the Government should take this course, after having allowed the House to debate upon the entire budget for several nights. He contended it was impossible to narrow the issue of the debate in reference to an extension of the area only, inasmuch as, according to the Budget, if the Government are not prepared to encounter an absolute deficiency in the second year, for which they have calculated, they must have an augmentation of the House-tax. If I mistake not, the House-tax, as levied at present, yields £700,000 a year. The effect of extending the area and bringing the exemptions down from £20 to £10, would be to levy only £150,000 more; so that, therefore, without doubling the tax, the effect of the proposed measures would be to yield the Exchequer a sum of only £850,000. But the right hon. gentleman in stating his balance for the year 1853-4, and looking also to 1854-55, took credit for £1,700,000 as the produce of the House-tax; and for the first year he also took credit for £400,000 from the Exchequer Loan Fund, of which I shall say more presently. The first year only one-half of the House-tax comes to be levied, and that will leave a balance in his favour of only £50,000. In the second year he will have only the additional sum arising from the House-tax, and will be left with a deficit, by his own showing, of no less than £450,000. Under these circumstances, is it possible for the Government, with any regard to the credit or safety of the country, or provision for the public service, if they remit half the Malt-tax, and the Hop-duty, and stand by their Budget in every particular, to say that the augmentation of the House-tax will be sufficient? After referring to the way in which the shipping, and the Colonial, and the landed interests were treated, Sir J. Graham remarked:—"It was observed, the other night, that one Government was very much like another. I must say that every Budget, whoever may be its progenitors, bears a strong family resemblance to all others. I see no difference in this. Strip it of the repeal of the Malt-tax and Hop-duty, and this question of the House-tax, about which there is a disposition rather to try the question whether it is to be doubled or not, and it would appear to me to be a very reasonable Budget. The question of the renewal of the Income-tax, or the principles upon which it should be levied, would be open to discussion in detail; but, apart from that, this Budget was much the same with former Budgets." With respect to the Malt-tax, he had invariably opposed a remission of any part of that tax, and he assigned various reasons why such remission would be of little or no advantage to consumers or producers. Sir James next insisted upon the inexpediency of interfering with the operation of the Exchequer Loan Fund, which was of great local importance, and asked why the Chancellor of the Exchequer laid his hands upon a part of this useful fund to supply a deficiency he would himself create by tampering with the taxation of the country? The views of Mr. Disraeli upon the subject of direct taxation, he remarked, were incongruous. He had laid it down at one time that direct taxation with large exemptions was confiscation; and at another that, without large exemptions, it was impossible. Sir James exemplified the manner in which the Income-tax as introduced into Ireland, and the increased House-tax in England, conflicted with these maxims, and he showed how unequally the proposed scheme of distinguishing between realised and precarious incomes would work in both countries. Upon the question of the relative merits of indirect and direct taxation, he held that their admixture was the sound legislative policy; but that such admixture required great caution, and the proportions must be most carefully regulated. With reference to this point, he cited the opinions of Lord Derby and of Sir R. Peel, who declared that, except for a special and temporary purpose, direct taxation could not, in his opinion, be carried to a much greater extent than it had reached already. In conclusion, he urged the Government not to press direct taxation far in a time of peace, but to have their machinery ready for such a system in case of emergency.

Sir J. PARINGTON denied that there had been any change of purpose on the part of the Government with reference to the resolution, which merely involved the principle of dealing with the House-tax conformably to the first principle of the Budget, that direct taxation should be carried, not to a dangerous extent, but so far as to lighten the burdens of the consuming classes. This object was aimed at in the repeal of half the Malt-tax. The great importance which Parliament had for years past attached to this measure authorised the attempt made cautiously and gradually to get rid of this tax, thereby benefiting both the consumer and the land. Sir John complained of the imputations which had been cast upon the motives of the Government, who had been accused of bringing forward this great proposal in a revengeful and retaliatory spirit, than which, he said, no charge could be more groundless or unjust. He repeated, likewise, the charge of endangering the credit of the country by the repeal of burdensome imposts, and of setting class against class and town against country by the mode of adjusting direct taxation. He defended the distinctions created by the modifications of the Income-tax against the objections of Sir J. Graham, and expressed his confident belief that the sense of the majority of the House would sanction the principles of the measure proposed by the Government, opposed as they were by a combination held together by a rope of sand, and who had failed to excite public sympathy.

Mr. CROSSLY, though no enemy to direct taxation, desired that the direct tax should be just and equal, and that it was needed; secondly, that the indirect tax intended to be repealed should be a bad tax.

Lord J. RUSSELL having raised a formal question as to the mode of proceeding, in order that the committee should understand the real issue upon which it had to decide, a desultory discussion ensued, the difficulty being this—the Chairman of the Committee had read only a portion of the original resolution—that portion stating that the House-duties should cease and determine.

Mr. W. Williams, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. K. Macanlay severally proposed verbal amendments to the resolution as read by the Chairman; each of which, after considerable discussion and confusion, was subsequently withdrawn.

Ultimately, it was arranged that the Chairman should read the Resolution to its close, instead of stopping at the first part of it, which was described as the mere preamble.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in giving his assent to this course, took occasion to warn the friends of the Government, that, in voting for the resolution as a mark of their confidence in the Government, they were not therefore pledged subsequently to agree to the increase of the House-tax, or any other of the details of the Budget.

The resolution having been then read by the Chairman,

Sir A. COCKBURN, in resuming the adjourned debate, taunted the Government with having more than once changed the issue they had to try; and declared his intention of meeting the proposed resolution with a decided negative. He contended that there was no necessity whatever for any new taxes, and the right hon. gentleman, in imposing them, had offered no equivalent whatever to the sufferers under this new system of finance. The hon. and learned gentleman, however, complimented the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the principle he laid down in respect to the Income-tax, namely, that of drawing a distinction between precarious and fixed income, and said that he deserved immense credit for boldly placing common-sense in opposition to the subtle reasoning of professional financiers.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND defended the financial propositions of the Government; and contended that the extension of the Income-tax to landed property in Ireland could not be properly viewed as a breach of faith with the public creditor. He also insisted upon the propriety of exempting landed property in the sister country from the operation of the tax, because of the terrible suffering to which the landed proprietors in Ireland had been for the last few years exposed.

Lord DUNLAW charged the Government with having rashly and recklessly misled the agriculturists of the country by the most fallacious hopes, hopes which hon. gentlemen on the Ministerial benches must have known never could be realised; and, in many instances, they had made the British farmer a laughing-stock in the eyes of the world. He considered that it was a mere delusion to suppose that the reduction proposed on the Malt-duties could benefit the community at large; and yet the Government were about to sacrifice £2,500,000 of the revenue, in order to put more money into the pockets of capitalists and brewers, who alone would reap the advantage of the remission of this tax. On behalf of the people of Scotland generally, he denounced the financial propositions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. HUNTER BLAIR said that the people of Ayrshire, whom he represented, were decidedly in favour of the right hon. gentleman's Budget.

Mr. G. H. MOORE said that the existence of the present Government depended upon one great misapprehension, extending over two Parliaments in point of time and over the whole empire in point of area. The generous policy which had been promised to Ireland by the Secretary of the Home Department, as well as other members of the Government was to be found in their extension of the Income-tax to a class of persons in his country which was the least able to bear it, and

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THE BRITISH CAMP, BEYOND THE KEI.

THE KAFFIR WAR.

The monthly summary of the Cape Town Mail, of Nov. 6 (received by the *Queen of the South*, on Monday) states that the war is not yet brought to a close. Operations continue against the Kaffirs, who, although dispersed and pursued, are neither reduced nor driven beyond the Kei. Early in October, General Cathcart constructed a defensible post at Hog's Back, opposite the ruined military village of Auckland, in order to clear the Amatolas and the laager of the rebel Uithaolder. Lieutenant Colonel Eyre had command of the patrol, which consisted of the 73rd Regiment, three companies of the 60th, Armstrong's Horse, Campbell's Fingoes, the Kat River Levy, two brigades of rockets, and a proportion of the Cape Mounted Rifles. They started on the 4th of October, and on the 5th surprised and burnt Uithaolder's laager, without loss to the troops. This patrol has ever since been incessantly engaged in following up the enemy.

The chiefs decline the General's terms of unconditional surrender. Macomo and Sandilli, with the Gaika Kaffirs, find shelter in the forests which skirt the Amatolas: they are said to be destitute of ammunition, and their herds are fast decreasing.

Captain Hearn, of the 12th, has been killed while out with a detachment of that regiment, escorting a drove of contractor's cattle. Two of the 12th, and a civilian named Riley, were killed at the same time.

A spirited but unsuccessful effort has been made by Lieut. Whitmore, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, to capture the Chief Sandilli, who had with him fourteen or fifteen mounted Kaffirs and several on foot. Although possessing an inferior force, Lieut. Whitmore dashed on, and having divided the enemy, followed the lesser portion, Sandilli and one attendant, who, having the better horses, escaped into a wood.

On the 6th of October, General Cathcart had an interview with the chiefs of the Slambie tribes at Fort Murray. They consisted of Pato, Cobus Congo, Toise Umhala, Umyke, Jan Tzatzoe, and Siwani and his mother Nonebi, being all the Slambies except the rebel Seyolo. The Governor's address promised protection provided they did not allow any of the rebels who had taken shelter among their tribes to attack the Queen's subjects. These chiefs severally expressed their desire for peace, and a few days after Seyolo delivered himself up, and is now in safe custody.

A correspondent writes that the last *Graham's Town Journal* contains

a proclamation offering, with certain exceptions, life to all the Hottentots, on condition of their surrendering themselves. It is understood that those in the Waterkloof are in great want, and anxious to come in. A Commando of the Trans-Vaal Boers, 406 men, has lately invaded the country of the Chief Secheli; they took the principal town by storm, after six hours' hard fighting, and left four farmers and 300 of Secheli's warriors dead on the field. The cause of this expedition is unknown.

We are indebted to two Correspondents for the accompanying illustrations. The "British Camp" is from a sketch by B. Hedley, Esq.



MAP OF THE SEAT OF THE KAFFIR WAR.



THE WACHE-EM-BETJE, OR WAIT-A-BIT, FROM THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—As I think a correct knowledge of all that relates to South African affairs is now absolutely necessary, permit me to correct an error in the account of the "Kaffir bush," which appeared in your impression of Saturday, January 31st last.

The above name I have never heard used: it is known in the colony as the Thorn-tree (*Groote-doom-boom*); the wood is hard and dense, and is rarely used, except as fuel; the bark is used for tanning; the tree also produces quantities of fine gum, which is largely exported. On the frontier it usually grows either in single trees or in small bushy clumps.

The *Wache-em-betje*, or "Wait-a-bit," is a distinct kind, growing something like the English bramble; the thorns are exactly like fish-hooks, but without the barb; when these catch the clothes they must be removed by the hand; hence the name "Wait-a-bit." The thorn of the mimosa (*Groote-doom-boom*) being at right angles to the stem on which it grows, inflicts a severe scratch.

The bush, which you state to be "an impenetrable barrier to regular troops, and an excellent cover to the Kaffirs," is composed principally of numerous species of euphorbia, cactus, aloë, and similar plants, with *bourboontjes*, *guivre*, &c.: to burn such a bush would be impossible.

I am, &c., TREK BOER.

I beg to add that I have lived since 1843 on the eastern frontier of the Cape colony, and am intimately acquainted with every part of it, from the country of the emigrant Boers to the sea, and from the George district to the Umzimvooboo.



THE CITY OF SALISBURY, DURING THE RECENT FLOODS.

THE FLOODS AT SALISBURY.

In our Journal of last week we recorded and illustrated Fisherton-street during the recent inundations. We now engrave the interesting old city, as it appeared surrounded with the floods. Salisbury is described in the *Salisbury Journal* of Nov. 27, as being in the centre of an extensive lake, and, viewed from any of the surrounding hills, the spectator would fancy that the city itself had been transformed into a sort of inland Venice; but that rows of willows and isolated haystacks lift themselves drearily out of the circumjacent waters, and indicate the existence of meadow-land underneath. In the nave of the Cathedral, the water oozed up through the pavement, and formed large pools; while the south-western portion of the Close in several places were under water. The chapter-house of the Cathedral was also flooded, and the water approached upon the Palace grounds. Northward, in the direction of Woodford; southward as far as Downton, and, probably, far beyond; and westward, as far as Burcombe, the valleys wore the same gloomy aspect, and the inhabitants of low-lying cottages looked despairingly at the spreading waters at their feet, to the lowering sky over head, vainly hoping for a cessation of the extraordinary fall of rain. In the *Salisbury Journal* of the 4th, it is stated:—"Bad as this season has been, it will be remembered by many of our older readers that the winter of 1809 was much worse. About the middle of January, in that year, a deep snow rapidly melted, and the rivers overflowed their banks. From that time, to the end of February, there was continual rain—not a single fine day intervening. For nearly six weeks service was not performed in the Cathedral. This dreadful winter was followed by a wet harvest. The first week in August there was a tremendous thunderstorm, which was succeeded by heavy rains till the beginning of October, by which the corn was most seriously damaged. In the summers of 1792, 1799, and 1816, more than half the corn was destroyed by the rains. The summer of 1797 was a very wet one, and the corn was very much injured. The winter of 1827-28 was a remarkably wet one, the springs rising to an unprecedented height. This winter was followed by a very wet summer. Let us hope that our next summer may be of a different description." It may be interesting

to add, that the city of Salisbury, before the alteration in its boundaries, occupied part of a peninsula formed by the river Avon on the west and south, and by the river Bourne on the east, the village of Fisherton Anger which we engraved last week (now included in the municipal and parliamentary limits), is on the west side of the Avon, at the junction with that river of the united stream of the Wily and the Nadder, which meet at Bemerton, two miles west of their junction with the Avon. The principal part of the city lies immediately to the north of the extensive Cathedral-close; and the principal streets have a stream of water from the rivers conducted through them by canals lined with brick. These inlets, and the city being surrounded with rivers, render the city liable to frequent floods, when the streams are swollen by heavy rains.

The Cathedral of Salisbury is one of the most beautiful in England; the spire and tower are 404 feet in height. In the city is an ancient market-cross, now in course of restoration; and we gather from the proceedings at the recent Cheesemarket anniversary dinner, that it is intended to erect a new Market-house.

The floods still continue. Wales, especially, has been severely visited. A Correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Monday from Carnarvon, says:—"The almost incessant rains which for the last seven or eight weeks have prevailed in this locality, gradually increased the water in the rivers and streams which flow into the Menai Straits; but nothing serious was apprehended until Sunday morning last, when, after a heavy fall during the previous night, the Cadnant river began to overflow its banks. The Cadnant is ordinarily a small rivulet, which, at its source, about six miles up the country, measures but a few inches in breadth. It is fed by tributary streams, and runs into a reservoir which supplies the town with water. Its finds its way thence down the valley, under a portion of the town, into the Straits. About 10 o'clock it became apparent that the low arches erected over the course of the river near its entry into the town were insufficient to contain the rapidly increasing body of water that was poured down into them. The consequence was, that the water soon spread itself over a wide extent of ground on each side—a high wall forming a barrier against its progress towards the town. In about an hour the water had risen to the top of the wall, and immediately afterwards the

entire bulwark gave way under the pressure with a tremendous crash. Down came the resistless torrent, sweeping all before it in its course, and inundating some scores of dwelling-houses which stood on the banks of the river. The other low parts of the town were similarly situated, the water being in several places about three yards deep. At night the water had entirely subsided; and we are glad to say that no fatal accident occurred. In addition to this, the estuaries of the Seint and Gwysfai, which respectively flow from the Llanherin and Quellyn lakes, overflowed. The Morfa, a marshy ground on the banks of the Seint, was one sheet of water; and the force with which it swept into the harbour may be estimated when it is stated that the masonry of one corner of the pier was carried away. A bridge on the Gwysfai, upwards of 200 years old, was destroyed, and the fields on each side flooded to a great extent. These floods are the most extensive known here for many years."

Nottingham has not yet recovered her former position. In the town itself great disease prevails in those parts which have most felt the effects of the recent inundations; and a Correspondent, writing from that neighbourhood on Sunday, says:—"The weather in this district has been again very stormy during the week. Considerable quantities of rain fell on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. At Mansfield many of the coal-pits are still unfit to work. The colliers remain at a stand on account of the immense body of water which still continues to flow into the pits, which, although the pumps are employed night and day, it seems impossible to reduce. In this district the protracted rains prevent ploughing and the getting up of agricultural produce, such as turnips, mangel wurzel, &c.—operations which are highly important to the farmer at this advanced period of the year. In Nottingham the continued moist and unhealthy weather is favourable to the continuance of the fever. Perhaps the greatest amount of damage done in the county by the flood is at the village of Dunham, situate near the Trent, where the embankments which surround the village gave way, and the whole district was overflowed.

The *Lincoln Mercury* says:—"The low lands about Lincoln still continue covered with water; and when the houses will be clear of it, it is impossible to predict. The value of the property that has been flooded must be considerably deteriorated."

At Shields, on Sunday, the floods led to some loss of life, and a considerable loss of property. About nine o'clock at night, owing to a great fresh in the river, the consequence of the late heavy continued rain, the third tier of ships moored above the low lights broke adrift in the harbour, when a scene followed which it is impossible adequately to describe. About forty vessels were pitched from their moorings, amongst which were steam tugs and vessels of various descriptions, some driven a-hwart hawee each other, some carried out to the entrance of the harbour, some striking on the ground and sinking; whilst the noise of the crews on board, and the cries for help of many in the darkness of the night, with the noise of vessel striking against vessel, was most appalling and terrific, and, as a matter of course, the damage sustained by the shipping is immense. Two persons are said to have been drowned belonging to the *Jane and Elizabeth*, of that port, and other seamen are reported to be missing.

Last Sunday was also a most disastrous day for Newcastle-on-Tyne. On that day an extraordinarily high tide occurred in the Tyne, owing to the excessive land floods, occasioned by the incessant rains in the west towards Cumberland, throughout the extensive country drained by the North and South Tyne, the Team, the Derwent, and other tributaries. Newcastle quay was completely under water on Sunday evening, several cellars and underground warehouses were flooded, and large quantities of timber were floated down the river from the adjoining shores. At Scotswood, a village three miles above Newcastle, the water entered two large paper mills, and did great damage, spoiling several tons of paper. On the opposite shore, at Blaydon and Derwenthaugh, the fires of the cinder ovens were extinguished. A row of cottages at Scotswood were flooded nearly up to the ceiling. The water in the Tyne has not been so high during the last twenty years. Further west, some damage was done to the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway; a land slip took place near the Riding Mill station, in consequence of which the rails were displaced, and the train which was due at Newcastle at eight o'clock on Sunday evening was detained several hours.

On Monday it was discovered that the stupendous arch belonging to the South-Western Railway, which spans the Westminster-road near the Marshgate, had sunk, owing to the unusual and continued rain. Men were employed in placing strong girders to prevent any serious accident from occurring.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THE BUDGET.

(Continued from page 539.)

yet from mere party motives exempted the landed proprietors from bearing any share in the burden. He repudiated the charge of being influenced by any party motives, while he declared that Ireland had been deserted, betrayed, and assailed in the present Budget.

Mr. PEACOCK, while declaring himself generally in favour of the Government, suggested to the Chancellor of the Exchequer the propriety of withdrawing his proposition for the extension of the Income-tax to Ireland; for he might rely upon it that the small sum that would be obtained from it in Ireland would be dearly purchased by the opposition which he would encounter. He thought that there ought to be a thorough investigation into the present licensing system before the Government proposed a reduction in the Malt-tax.

Sir F. BARING reiterated the assertion that the proposed extension of the Income-tax to Ireland was a breach of faith towards the public creditor. He did not think it wise to strain direct taxation too far; for, in attempting to obtain too much, they ran the risk of losing what they already had gained. The right hon. gentleman then proceeded to review each of the propositions of the Government; and concluded by saying that, on the whole, he must declare his opposition to the financial scheme of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER commenced the defence of his propositions by explaining the reason why he had added to his estimates £400,000 from the Public Works Loan Fund. The commission had been issued when money was scarce and labour abundant. Now that these circumstances were completely reversed, the commission should be abolished. From 1824 to 1850, disbursements had been made under this head, amounting to about £700,000, which had been most uselessly spent. To dispose of this, and to put an end to the loan, was, therefore, a question which deserved the attention of a Chancellor of the Exchequer, and this appeared to him to be the best mode of disposing of it permanently. He would show them upon what authority he had followed this course. In 1822 there was a select committee appointed to consider the most efficient mode of keeping the public accounts; to its report we were indebted for almost all the improvements that had been subsequently adopted. That select committee recommended that all advances should be entered upon the account of income and expenditure. In 1828 another committee was appointed, which recommended that these accounts should be kept separate from those of income and expenditure; adding that, whenever the issues were stopped, the account should be closed. The second arrangement of his financial statement, which had been made by the hon. member for Halifax, was the grievous mistake which he (the Chancellor) had made in estimating the deficiency that would arise from the semi-repeal of the Malt tax. He had estimated it at £1,700,000. The right hon. gentleman calculated it at £2,500,000. In the first estimate no calculation had been allowed for increased consumption, for this he allowed £200,000; and having shown that his original estimate was strictly correct, it now appeared that the decrease would altogether be only £1,500,000. The right hon. gentleman (Sir Charles Wood) objected to the view which he had taken of the continuance of the Kaffir war. The war, he still believed, was virtually at an end; the Commissariat were closing their accounts; and he had the best authority for saying that the Amantolas, defeated and dispirited, unable to make a stand against our forces, without territory, food, or security, took to the bush, and were dying there. The right hon. member for the University of Oxford had objected to his having made no allowance for loss to the revenue by allowing sugar to be refined in bond. But he had not shown that a loss would take place; and, for his part, he did not anticipate anything of the sort. The next point of the speech of the right hon. gentleman made the serious accusation against him of imposing the House-tax for the purpose of repaying the Malt-tax, and thus benefiting the agricultural classes. This was, perhaps, a good party cry, which, probably, he might have used himself had he been in Opposition (Laughter). This was not, however, the case. Gentlemen opposite had themselves admitted that his reduction of the Malt-tax would diminish the price of production, and would lessen the cost of beer to the consumer. He had advocated it as a necessary part of the system of unrestricted competition which had been adopted as the policy of this country. He had on all hands been accused of pushing direct taxation to its furthest extremes. He could not forget that the right hon. gentleman had himself come down to that House with a proposition in his pocket for doubling the Property and Income-tax (Hear, hear). But he withdrew it at the first breath of opposition, and next day announced that he could get on without it. And now, the right hon. gentleman told him in language hardly Parliamentary, that he did not know his business. Though the right hon. gentleman had said that he did not know his business, that did not prove it; the House must decide that. The right hon. gentleman had to learn that: he had to learn other things: he had to learn that penance was not sarcasm, and that insolence was not argument (Cheers, and loud cries of "Oh!"). The right hon. member for Carlisle had made a most pathetic appeal to the House in favour of that class of persons who had an income of £150 a year. This sympathy was unnecessary, for there was no class who had hitherto been subjected so lightly to the pressure of taxation. He thought they had even escaped better than the really working-classes. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then adverted to the observations made by the hon. member for Kidderminster (Mr. Lowe), regarding emigration; but in his remarks, that hon. and learned gentleman had evidently forgotten what he had written of the "reserved productive power of the English people" (Loud laughter). For his own part he thought that this emigration now going on from England, would be more likely to stimulate than to check the increase of population. Turning to the subject of retrenchment and increased efficiency in public offices, he gave it as his opinion that great retrenchments might be made in consequence of increased efficiency. This could not be brought about in its full extent till 1854-5; but at that time it would be the fault of the House of Commons if they did not find the public service more efficient and much less costly than it had ever been. He had had advice given him; he had been told to withdraw his Budget. Pitt had done so; others had done so (Laughter). He did not aspire to the fame of some Chancellors, and he would not descend to the degradation of others: he remembered a Budget renewed, withdrawn, and withdrawn again (Laughter). What was the consequence?—that he was obliged to remodel the compromise of the House-tax and Window-tax proposed in 1848. He knew what he had to oppose that night. He had to face a coalition. That coalition might be successful; but coalitions had a way found their triumph to be brief. He knew that England did not love coalitions. He appealed from that coalition (Loud cheers) to the public opinion which governed this country, which controlled even the decrees of Parliament, and before which even our most ancient and august institutions were as the baseless fabric of a vision (Tremendous cheers).

Mr. GLADSTONE felt that the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer called for a reply, and a reply on the moment. There were things which he, too, had to learn. Among others, the reason why he should not have spoken as he did upon the subject of emigration. He told the right hon. gentleman that the license of language he had used (Sensation), the phrases he had applied (Cheers and counter cheers) to the characters of men (Uproar) whose public career (Interruption)—he told the right hon. gentleman that he was not entitled to charge with insolence members of that House (Hear)—to say to the right hon. member for Carlisle that he respected but did not regard him. Much as he had already learned, the right hon. gentleman had yet to learn the limits of moderation, of discretion, and temperance, that ought to restrain the conduct and language of every member of that House; disregard of which was an offence in the meanest among them, and which was tenfold more so when committed by the leader of the House of Commons (Loud cheers). The right hon. gentleman then proceeded to show that the proposed scheme would operate most detrimentally upon all classes, and even upon the Chancellor's favourites—the yeomen and clergymen of England.

The Committee then divided, when there appeared—

For the resolution	286
Against it	305
Majority against the Government	19

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER the Chairman then reported progress, and the House adjourned at a quarter to four o'clock on Friday morning till Monday next.

THE CASE OF MR. BENJAMIN BOYD.—In answer to Mr. Milnes, Lord STANLEY, on Monday, stated, that a despatch had been sent in June last to Mr. Crampton, the British Minister in the United States, asking him to obtain the co-operation of the American Government. This had been done; but, as yet, no information had been obtained.

ACCIDENTS ON RAILWAYS.—In answer to Mr. H. Brown, Mr. HENLEY said, that the subject of enforcing regulations for the safety of railway passengers, had been referred to a Select Committee, and that Government would do nothing till that committee had made its report. Mr. H. Brown then gave notice that after the recess he would bring the subject before the House.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.—In answer to a question from Mr. Forster, Mr. WALPOLE said, the City had given him notice in the last summer that they were prepared to construct a new market, and that they had chosen a site in Copenhagen-fields, and his approbation had been given to that site; but, until after the lapse of eighteen months from that time, he had no power to interfere in the mode in which the City proposed to carry out their plan.

THE TENANT COMPENSATION IRELAND BILL was read a third time on Wednesday. A discussion ensued, in which Sir I. V. Shelley, Lord Naas, Viscount Monk, Messrs. T. D. Fitzgerald, Lucas, H. Drummond, Whiteside, Walpole, and V. Scully took part.

The Stamp-duty on Patents of Inventions Bill was on Thursday read a third time and passed.

The Countess of Limerick gave birth to a son, on Sunday last, at Trinity Manor, Jersey.

The Viscountess Downe gave birth to a son, on Monday last, at Wykeham. Her Ladyship, with the infant, is going on favourably.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, December 19.—Fourth Sunday in Advent.
MONDAY, 20.—Gray born, 1716.
TUESDAY, 21.—St. Thomas.
WEDNESDAY, 22.—Shortest Day. Hoiccroft born, 1744.
THURSDAY, 23.—Abdication of James II., 1688.
FRIDAY, 24.—Christmas Eve. Robin Hood died, 1247.
SATURDAY, 25.—CHRISTMAS DAY. Nativity of Our Saviour.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 25, 1852.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45	M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45	M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45	M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45	M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45	M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45	M 8 5 8 35 9 10 9 45 10 15 10 50 11 45

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Log—Persons from the country may get married in London at any time under the special license of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Without that the marriage must take place upon banns at the parish church of one or both of the parties; or upon license at any church in the parish of which one of the parties has abided for fifteen days previous to the ceremony, or upon the registrar's license or certificate, which requires a seven days' residence of one of the parties in the registrar's district, and a lapse of twenty-one days in case of a certificate, or seven days in case of a license, between the notice to the registrar and the actual marriage.

A J.—Sarah Jenyns, who became Duchess of Marlborough, was daughter of Richard Jenyns, Esq., of Sandridge, in Hert, who was son of Sir John Jenyns, M.P. for St. Albans, made Knight of the Bath, at the creation of Charles Prince of Wales, and who descended from the family of Jenyns, of Islington, in Middlesex, the representative of which, Sir Roger Jenyns, purchased the estate of Bottisham, in Cambridgeshire. We cannot trace any details connected with the office of Falconer in the Jenyns pedigree. Refer to Beaton's "Political Index" for particulars of the grand falconers.

HORSHAM.—The payment of One Shilling at the Prerogative Office, Doctors Commons, will obtain the perusal of a Will.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER FROM INDIA.—Arms of Tempest: "Arg a bend between six martlets sa. Crest: a Griffin's head erased per pale arg and sa, boated gu. Motto: Loyowl as thou fynds."

A SUBSCRIBER, Glastonbury.—A whale is of the class Mammalia.

J H.—We have not room.

DELTA.—Weiss, surgical instrument-maker, Strand.

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A WINTER SCENE: THE FAGGOT GATHERERS. By BIRKIT FOSTER.
"THE ELFIN OF HAZELNOOK." Drawn by DODGSON.
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1852.

The Ministers have been defeated on the Budget by a majority of 305 against 286. At the time at which we write, it is impossible to state whether they will accept this defeat in all its significance, and resign office; or, whether they will follow the advice of Sir Charles Wood: "take back their Budget and amend it," in conformity with the decision of the House of Commons. It seems, however, to be generally considered that the defeat is final; and that, in reality, the opinion of the House has been expressed upon the whole principle of the Budget, though nominally upon one portion of it only; and that, as a necessary consequence the Ministers must resign.

The result as to Mr. Disraeli's Budget was clearly foreseen. We stated our opinion last week, that it would never be allowed to pass. Every day added fresh strength to the conviction entertained on all sides, that so unwise a remission of taxation as half of the Malt-tax, and so unwise an increase of burdens as a doubled House-tax and an extended Income-tax, would not escape the ordeal of a Parliamentary division, whenever it became convenient to put it to that test. A Budget which was condemned by Mr. Goulburn and the old Conservative party; by Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, and the new Conservative, or Peel party; by Lord John Russell, Sir Charles Wood, and the Whig party; by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bernal Osborne, and the Free-trade and Liberal party; and by all the minor chiefs of the smaller parties into which the House is divided and sub-divided; and supported only by a Ministerial phalanx that is daily becoming more unsatisfied with the Financial Minister, was evidently doomed. At one time the debates upon the subject threatened to be complicated and tedious, if not contradictory and unsatisfactory; but gradually, as if by common consent, attention was fixed upon the very nucleus, kernel, pith, and essence of the whole project—the reduction of half the Malt-tax, and the consequent sacrifice of two millions and a half of revenue.

The Malt-tax, like all other taxes, is an evil; but it is a fair sub-

ject of inquiry, whether it is by any means the most unpopular of our taxes; and whether, as long as the national honour and faith, and the public credit, are considered—as they happily are at the present time—of the very highest importance and urgency to maintain untarnished and unimpaired, any tax much less oppressive can be found? Those who have most reason to complain of it, the hard-working population, who consume beer—a class, including navvies and miners and coal-heavers, and all sorts of mechanics and handicraftsmen, as well as farmers and farm-labourers—say very little upon the subject, and have never yet joined in any agitation, or even remonstrance, to force the subject on the attention of the Legislature. In fact the Malt-tax is not unpopular, and thousands of people who drink malt liquor, as well as many who do not, are of opinion that a tax so very productive, and at the same time so lightly felt, would not easily be devised. Yet it is very generally conceded, that, if the State could spare so much money as five millions, it would be matter for congratulation to see it, as well as the whole Excise system, swept away. At present, however, this is simply impossible. But the creation of a deficit of two and a half millions—leaving half the Malt-tax still in existence, with all its cumbrous machinery and vexatious impediments—has been felt to be a very gratuitous, if not reckless, waste of the public resources. But when it becomes necessary—after the deficit be made, to look around for a substitute; and when the Minister can devise none better than the duplication of one direct tax, and the extension of another to classes hitherto exempt from both, we must confess that we are not in the least surprised at the Minister's unpopularity, and at the preference shown by Parliament and by the tax-paying public for the *status quo*.

At the same time, public writers and public speakers who entertain different views, should not do injustice to that large class of persons, the ten-pound householders, or accuse them of "ignorant impatience of taxation," or of want of honesty or of patriotism in the resistance which they have offered. If there were a deficit in the national revenues, caused by natural circumstances, and not by a Ministerial act, we are certain that this class, humble as its individual members may be, but powerful in the aggregate, would not object to bear a fair share of the common burden. There is no reason why, if a £20 house pay a tax, a £10 house should not; but there are very strong reasons why a large and struggling portion of the community should not be subjected to two several items of direct taxation—a House-tax and an Income-tax, as the price for a diminished liability to an indirect tax, which at any moment any portion of them might be relieved of, by joining a temperance society. By the vote of Friday morning, Parliament emphatically decided that the doubtful privilege of obtaining cheaper beer would cost too much at the valuation which Mr. Disraeli put upon it; and that the £10 householders, as well as the owners of property worth £50 a year, and the earners of income worth from £100 to £149 19s. 11d., had justice on their side in objecting to the proposed arrangement. The immediate, as well as more remote, results of the decision, upon the Ministry, upon parties, and upon the public, remain to be seen.

We are informed, on what we believe to be competent authority, that the Council of the University College of London has just declined the offer of a gentleman to fill the vacant chair of Oriental languages, on the ground that he is not as conversant with Greek and Latin as with the languages which he professes to be able to teach. Although he has spent the greater part of, if not all, his life in acquiring Arabic, Turkish, and Persian, by a residence in the countries where those languages are spoken, it appears that, because he is not a member of one of the English colleges, nor as intimate with the dead languages of Greece and Italy as he is with the living languages of the East, he is to be held disqualified for the office. When it is considered how important it is that her Majesty's Government should secure the services of persons who, on being entrusted with official situations in India, should be able to communicate with the natives without the intermedium of translators, we cannot but trust that this lamentable indifference to the interests of our Eastern dominions is only temporary. We live in a practical age, and require practical men for the subordinate as well as for the higher functions of government in our immense possessions.

In a lecture read before the Royal Asiatic Society, last January, Professor Wilson ably advocated the merits of the study of Oriental literature. "It is not to be denied (he said) that the antiquities and literature of the nations of the East have hitherto failed to receive that attention from the public which might have been expected, if not from their own inherent interest, yet from our long and intimate intercourse with the most important countries of Asia, and the political identification of India and Great Britain. Various publications (texts and translations) of Arabic works, especially on grammar and lexicology, have been printed on the Continent, which prove the great interest taken everywhere, EXCEPT IN ENGLAND, in Oriental literature. It cannot but be thought somewhat extraordinary that, so long and so intimately as this country has been connected politically with the Ottoman Empire, such a total neglect should have been exhibited of the Turkish language and literature. We have been hitherto dependent, even for personal communication with the officers of the Government, to Greek or Syrian Dragomans, or more correctly Turjamans, or translators; and, although some few years since a move was made by the British Government to provide a less exceptional class of qualified interpreters, the project has been but imperfectly carried out, and the most confidential communications are still at the mercy of foreigners, who are not even British subjects." Surely such a state of things should not be suffered to continue.

THE COURT.

OSBORNE.

The Earl of Derby and Lord Raglan have been the only guests at the Royal table since the departure of the French Ambassador on Saturday last. The Premier arrived on Saturday and remained till Monday; on which day Lord Raglan reached Osborne, his Lordship's visit extending until Wednesday.

On Sunday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, attended divine service at the parish church of Whippingham. The Earl of Derby also attended the service. The Rev. Mr. Tracy officiated.

The inclemency of the weather during the week has generally prevented the Royal family from taking their accustomed riding and walking exercise.

The Court will return to Windsor Castle on Thursday next.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent continues her residence at Frogmore, and, we are happy to add, is in the enjoyment of excellent health. Her Royal Highness takes carriage airings whenever the weather is favourable.

The Countess de Neuilly, the ex-Queen of the French, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester-house, on Saturday last.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland entertained a select party at dinner on Wednesday, at Northumberland-house. Later in the evening the Duchess received a small circle, among whom were Lord and Lady Lovaine, Lord Polwarth, Lady Agnes Buller, Sir Philip Hornby and the Misses Hornby, Sir Walter Riddell, Sir William Gage, Sir Harry and Lady Dillon, Sir Edward Tucker, Sir Thomas Hastings, Colonel North, M.P., and the Baroness North; Admiral Bowles and Miss Bowles, &c.

LITERATURE.

THE LIFE OF FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN. By WILLIAM POLLARD URQUHART, Esq., M.P. Blackwood.

It is not often that the critic has so agreeable a task confided to him as the perusal and notice of a work like that which now lies before us; and we must, in the first place, congratulate the author upon the admirable judgment by which he was guided in his selection of a subject for his pen. Francesco Sforza was undoubtedly one of the most remarkable men of his time; a fact which not even his calumniators have been able to refute; but it was left to the conscientious research and patient and unprejudiced investigation of Mr. Urquhart to present him to posterity in his integral greatness. Strikingly in advance of his age, the architect of his own extraordinary fortunes—the object of distrust to many of his contemporaries, and of envy to all, the memory of Francesco Sforza has hitherto been overlaid with calumny, emanating from the jealousy of some, and the ignorance of others. In the volume under notice, strict justice has been done; while, at the same time, the author has not been betrayed into the error of exaggerating the merits of the man, or of seeking to screen his shortcomings. At once a gentleman and a scholar, Mr. Urquhart has given ample proof of his perfect competency for the task which he undertook, and an intimate knowledge, not only of the personal career of Sforza himself, but also of the age and country in which he flourished. Disregarding the prejudices of the present day, Mr. Urquhart has written of Italy, the Italians, and Italian politics, as they existed at the period of Sforza's extraordinary struggle and success, at once lucidly and truthfully. No hollow cant nor factitious sentiment defaces his pages; there are no clap-traps to ensnare the applause of party, no puerile attempts to secure a transient popularity; but, with manly independence of spirit, he has redeemed his purpose, which he declares to have been "to illustrate the state of the Italian peninsula, and the genius of its inhabitants in the middle ages, by writing the life and times of the remarkable man who played so important a part in the great drama of her history." The fortunes of Francesco Sforza, on which hinges the main interest of the work, are narrated with all the exciting charm of romance, and with all the authority of truth; and, in this instance, it may indeed be said that "truth is stranger than fiction." We would, however, particularly direct the attention of the reader to the chapter on Italian warfare, which is eminently valuable from the circumstance that it will enable him to comprehend the facts which led to the decline of national character throughout the whole length and breadth of Italy; for not even among the native historians of that land, whose "fatal gift of beauty" was the cause of her misfortunes, shall we succeed in finding so clear, comprehensive, and candid an exposition of that decadence of patriotism, and that corruption of social morals, which degraded its citizens into hireling soldiers, and its nobles into robber chiefs. The sketch of the elder Sforza is a life-like picture, full of interest, which awakens all our sympathies for the astute and sturdy peasant, who, obeying the augury of his axe, left his humble and peaceful home, and, exchanging the ploughshare for the sword, hewed out, by the strength of his stalwart arm and his iron will, that perilous but honourable path which led to the steps of a throne, to be subsequently filled by his descendants; until we at length reach the last scene of his fitful existence, where we find him in the character of a military leader, flushed with success, and eager for further conquest, stooping from his saddle, while fording the river Pescara, to rescue an unhorsed and drowning follower, himself losing his seat, and heavily armed as he was, disappearing in his turn beneath the waves, which were heaving and tossing under the influence of a recent storm in the Adriatic.

The horse (pursues our author), freed from his burden, swam to the bank. The warrior was unable to struggle with the billows. Twice were his steel-clad hands seen raised above the waters, clasped together, as if he were imploring assistance, though any words that he may have attempted to utter were choked by the rage of the elements; after which he sank to rise no more, and his body was never afterwards found.

And well worthy of such a sire was his brave son, the future Duke of Milan: whose lofty ambition, despite his lowly and equivocal birth (for Francesco Sforza was not only the offspring of a peasant, but also the illegitimate child of one Lucia di Torsana, the mistress of his father), extraordinary genius, and indomitable will, bore him up against all opposition, until he found his brow encircled by the diadem of Milan. Of this remarkable individual Mr. Urquhart says:—

It will not, I think, be denied that he was endowed with all the great and most of the good qualities that generally fall to the lot of mankind. His abilities were singularly developed and displayed by the various circumstances in which he was placed. The tact by which he won his way to fame before his marriage with Bianca Maria (daughter of Filippo Maria Visconti, Duke of Milan); the perseverance with which he struggled against adversity from that time until the death of his father-in-law; the great military skill and political sagacity by which he succeeded, notwithstanding false friends and dangerous enemies, in placing himself on the throne of Milan; the firmness by which he secured himself, combined with the moderation which he exhibited in his new position; the policy by which, after having made himself arbiter of Italy, he laid the foundation of thirty years' peace and prosperity, show a combination of active and reflective powers rarely to be found in one person.

Nor does Muzatori (we quote from Mr. Urquhart) give less marked evidence of his appreciation of the wonderful powers of Francesco Sforza than his more recent biographer:—

The more we reflect (says the Italian historian) on the actions of this unrivalled Prince, the more readily must we acknowledge, notwithstanding the opinion of some, that for many centuries Italy has not produced so renowned a hero as Francesco Sforza, in whom there was a rare combination of wonderful valour with uncommon political sagacity. In twenty-two battles which he gave, he always ended by being conqueror, and he was never conquered by any. His father, Sforza Attendola, having risen from the lowest station of life, began to build the fortunes of the family; but his son, Francesco, proceeding with gigantic steps, advanced it in such a manner that he came to be at the head of the most noble duchy of Milan, and the proud city of Genoa, and to attain such a fame that he certainly deserves to be compared with the greatest captains of antiquity, and reckoned among the most illustrious people in the history of Italy.

In conclusion, we cordially recommend these volumes to such readers as desire to blend instruction with amusement. A new era has declared itself in historical writing. The mighty spirits of the past are no longer, to the youthful student above all, the mere myths into which the overstrained dignity of former historians had succeeded in reducing them. We now have the motives as well as the man; the individual as well as the sovereign; the substance as well as the shadow; and Mr. Urquhart is a worthy and able workman in this new mart of mind.

FINE ARTS.

PORTRAITS AND MEMORIALS OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

In addition to the numerous portraits of the late Duke, which we have already described in various notices, we have to mention one by Lucas, painted by express desire of his Grace for his old companion-in-arms the Marquis of Anglesey. It was painted in 1841, and represents the Duke full-length, in his Field-Marshal's uniform, with a cloak loosely thrown over his shoulders, and carrying his field telescope in one hand, and his hat in the other. On one side is a cannon. The likeness is a good one, and the general execution of the picture highly successful. It is now on view at Alderman Moon's, preparatory to its being engraved.

Of historical pictures in which the Duke is introduced, we have to mention one of the "Battle of Waterloo," painted for the late King of Holland (then Prince of Orange), by the Chevalier Pineman, President of the Royal Academy, Amsterdam. This picture, which is 28 ft. 9 in. by 18 ft. 6 in., contains portraits of the most celebrated English and Dutch officers who were in the battle. The Chevalier was upwards of six months in London painting the English Generals, and his Grace the late Duke of Wellington gave him several sittings. When finished, the picture was placed in the Gallery, at Brussels; but, on the Revolution taking place, it was removed to Amsterdam, and replaced in the studio of the artist. It was afterwards removed, and is now in the Palace, at Haarlem. A reduced copy of it was, by permission of the Prince of Orange, made by Mr. Hainselen, a pupil of Pineman's, and which is now in this country.

THE NEW TURNERS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

Two very interesting additions have just been made to the National Gallery, namely, two of the large collection of the works of Turner, bequeathed by the artist to the nation. They are the "Building of Carthage" and the "Sun Rising in Mist," and were left to the Gallery with the express stipulation that they should be hung up between two of our most brilliant Claudes, the British painter's object being to challenge the prince of bygone landscape painters for the championship. Accordingly, there they are at the east end of the Great Room, with the "Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba" on one side, and the beautiful "Watermill" picture on the other. We would gladly avoid the task of making comparisons between

the two masters, thus brought into juxtaposition; but, as it is forced upon us to do so, we must boldly aver that, whilst our Turner stands pre-eminently above all landscape-painters of his or our day, and, in some points, is even unsurpassed by all who have gone before him, he must still yield the palm to Claude in what concerns the highest resources of the art. In his "Sunrise in Mist," Turner has a subject of a class which he has made peculiarly his own; and nothing can be conceived more perfect than the effect which he has introduced: the rays of the sun struggling through the damp mists at various planes, and with more or less success, and casting their cold reflex upon the waters. The shipping looming in the middle distance and background are realised with exact truth, their relative positions being well defined by the amount of distinctness of outline bestowed upon them, and of density of atmosphere which surrounds them. In a field like this Turner stood, and stands yet, without a rival; but then it should be borne in mind that Claude, painting Italian skies, had different materials to deal with, and never produced anything of the class to which Turner was peculiarly devoted. His skies are generally bright and warm; or, when a hint of mist is introduced, it is of that light and transient character known only to the horizon of the sweet South; and serving almost to increase the golden or silvery glitter of the firmament in which it floats. Claude, aiming at the highest flights of creative art, did not hesitate to represent upon canvas the deepest recesses of bright immeasurable space, illumined by the pure rays of the sun in its noontide effulgence; and how he succeeded all know who have studied his works. Turner, also, in his "Carthage," has aimed at something of the same kind: he has placed the mid-day sun high in the centre of his canvas, surrounded by a golden sky; but, compared with the skies of Claude, this of Turner wants space and fluidity, is flat and opaque, and by no means produces the warmth of effect which the colour bestowed upon it might lead one to expect. In short, looking at our two Claudes and Turners, we must award to the former supremacy over the glorious sun and the glorious firmament in bright estate; and to the latter the subtle appreciation of effects resulting from accidental conditions of a varying atmosphere.

Both the pictures by Turner, now under consideration, are of his best period, and are free from the extravagances in which he indulged towards the latter part of his career. The "Sunrise" was painted more than forty years ago; and formed part of the collection of Lord de Tabley, at whose sale, some years ago, it was purchased by Mr. Turner. The "Building of Carthage" was painted some ten years later, and never left the possession of the artist, who repeatedly refused large sums of money for it—in one instance as much as £2000—intending always to bequeath it to the nation.

THE CRUCIFIXION. Painted by J. HILTON. Engraved by J. FINDEN.

The Art Union Society, in the engraving produced for the subscription of the current year, manifests an inclination to occupy a higher field of art than they have heretofore pretended to; they have, moreover, produced in very creditable style, a work which does honour to the arts of the country. Hilton was a painter of superior merit, aspiring to a higher and also a more severe school than suited the prevailing taste of the day. He was, therefore, comparatively but little known while living, and dead is almost forgotten, except by a few who pay homage for merit's sake rather than for Fashion's. The picture of the "Crucifixion" was one of this artist's most ambitious efforts; conceived with a strong feeling for the earlier Italian schools, that of sturdy Florence particularly, and carried out with simple, yet resolute purpose. It is in three pieces, after the early church fashion, a central picture and two volets—the latter occupied with incidents ancillary to the solemn subject of the former. The grouping of all is powerful, and for the most part impressive and dignified. Some exception, perhaps, might be taken to the turning of the backs of some of the figures in the principal subject, the sentiment intended in which—that of horror at the sacrilegious deed—may not at once be appreciated; the figure of the "Magdalen," also, may, perhaps, be a little too conspicuous, and somewhat theatrical, diverting the attention from what would otherwise command all our human sympathies, namely, the group of the Mary swooning in the arms of attendant saints and apostles; but these, if they be errors, are of small amount; whilst the sublime poetry of the Divine sacrifice is successfully realised. The figure of Christ is alike skilfully treated in anatomy, and admirable in expression. The characters of the two criminals who suffered on either side of the Redeemer are powerfully discriminated; the one looking towards heaven with a mixed expression of penitence and faith—the other reviling and struggling in horrible torture against fate to the last. It remains to be added, that the Engraving, by Finden, has been executed in a masterly style, worthy of the subject.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

PROFESSOR EMPSON, A.M., F.R.S.L.

WILLIAM EMPSON, Esq., the distinguished scholar and critic, so able and so popular, both as an instructor and a reviewer, was born in 1790: he was educated at Winchester College, and at Trinity College, Cambridge; and was called to the bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, the 11th February, 1819. His after-course, like in some measure to that of Blackstone, was more as a teacher than a practitioner of the law. Literature, too, occupied much of his time and talents. From the year 1823 he was a contributor to the *Edinburgh Review*; he subsequently became its editor. To this *Review* Mr. Empson, between 1823 and 1849, contributed upwards of sixty remarkable and admired articles on law, the condition of the poorer classes, negro slavery, domestic politics, poetry and general literature, and biography. At the college at Haileybury, Herts, instituted by the East India Company for the education of its civil officers, Mr. Empson succeeded Sir James Macintosh as Professor of Law, and he fully sustained the high reputation and dignity which distinguished predecessors had attached to that learned chair. No professor won more esteem and love in his office than did Mr. Empson; and no professor could endeavour more faithfully than he did to render his lectures efficient for their true end and object. Going far beyond common-places and elementary teaching, his lectures opened large historical views, the principles of moral philosophy and of international law. Paley, Kent, Story, Wheaton, Wildman, and Sir William Scott were his text-books as much as "Blackstone's Commentaries." This was peculiarly important where, as in India, local jurisdictions exist equal in area to European States, and where complicated and ill-defined rights and systems, differing religious faiths, contrasted ties of sovereignty, protection and alliance, render a knowledge of the general principles of jurisprudence absolutely necessary as a guide through an otherwise impenetrable labyrinth. Those who will take the trouble of looking carefully over Professor Empson's Examination Papers will perceive how well fitted was his system of instruction to convey the knowledge required for Indian magistrates and judges. He not only possessed knowledge, but the art of communicating it, and an art still rarer—that of obtaining and exercising influence over the hearts of his pupils. He showed a genial interest in the students of his class, which won their confidence and affection. In the infinite loss of the institution which derived such value from his abilities, and to the deep affliction of all who knew him, Mr. Empson fell a victim to a cold caught in the close exercise of his duties; his devoted attention to the recent examinations at the college aggravated his illness, and he died just after their conclusion. Fame and friendship attended this excellent and talented man throughout his useful public and private life. How he was loved and valued by those who knew him best is shown in Lord Jeffrey's letters. To his intimacy with his able compeer, Jeffrey, Empson owed the completion of his family happiness in marriage.

WILLIAM BALLANTINE, ESQ.

This gentleman, who for twenty-seven years was a magistrate of the Thames police-court, died on the 14th inst., at his residence, 89, Cadogan-place, Chelsea, after several months' severe illness. Mr. Ballantine, who was in his seventy-fourth year, was called to the bar by the Hon. Society of the Inner Temple the 5th February, 1813. He was a very intelligent and popular magistrate, and for many years had the chief control and management of the river police, a force which he left in a state of great efficiency, when it was placed under the Metropolitan Commissioners in Scotland-yard on the passing of the last Police Act. His urbanity, intelligence, and quick discernment, and his extensive legal knowledge, with which he combined the most perfect self-possession and general knowledge of the world, obtained him the respect and esteem of all classes of the people; and when he retired from the active duties of a police magistrate, four years ago, his loss was severely felt by the public. The late Mr. Ballantine took a very active part in the financial and judicial affairs of Middlesex as a county magistrate since his retirement from the Thames police-court, until he was attacked with the illness which proved fatal to him. He has left a large family to mourn his loss, the eldest of whom is Mr. William Ballantine, of the Home Circuit, the eminent counsel in matters connected with criminal jurisprudence. A portrait of the deceased gentleman appeared in No. 237 of this Journal.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Lord Chancellor took his seat upon the woolsack a few minutes before five o'clock. There was a very thin attendance of Peers, amongst whom we observed, on the Ministerial bench, the Earl of Malmesbury, and the Earl of Londale; and, on the Opposition bench, Lord Truro, Lord Stanley of Alderney, &c.

In the gallery appropriated to the members of the House of Commons were Lord John Russell, Mr. Baines, and several other hon. gentlemen.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.—The Earl of Malmesbury came forward and said: My Lords, in consequence of what took place in the House of Commons last night, in respect to a resolution moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the Prime Minister, who is gone to see her Majesty at Osborne, I shall move that this House do now adjourn until Monday next.

The motion having been agreed to, their Lordships immediately adjourned.

A Cabinet Council was held on Friday at the Foreign Office at twelve o'clock. The Ministers present were—The Earl of Derby, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Londale, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Right Hon. Spencer Walpole, the Earl of Malmesbury, Sir J. Pakington, the Duke of Northumberland, the Right Hon. J. C. Herries, the Right Hon. J. W. Henley, the Earl of Hardwicke, and Lord J. Manners. The Cabinet sat an hour.

The Earl of Derby left town for Osborne on Friday, at three o'clock.

Viscount Palmerston is progressing favourably. His Lordship has been suffering from a severe attack of gout and influenza. Dr. Holland has been in attendance on his Lordship daily for some time past.

On Thursday night the metropolis was visited with a storm of almost unexampled violence. A little after one o'clock two terrific peals broke over the metropolis, awaking the sleeping inhabitants and creating the utmost alarm. The rain literally fell in sheets; a sulphurous smell was evident in the districts immediately over which the electric current passed. The accounts brought up by the guards and others who travelled by railway, represent the storm to have been very severely felt on the South-Western, Great Western, and North-Western lines.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Thursday Evening.—A rumour is current in the political circles that Prince Napoleon Bonaparte, the cousin of the Emperor, has expressed a wish that if he is sent to Algeria as Viceroy or Lieutenant of the Emperor, an offer of the command of the army should be made to General de Lamoricière or General Changarnier—and to this proposition it is said the Emperor has acceded. This was mentioned last night by one of the favourite Generals of the Emperor, and therefore I am inclined to believe that is not altogether destitute of foundation. It appears that there is no intention of designating Napoleon Bonaparte as the successor of the Emperor in the event of his having no direct male issue. The friends of the Prince de Canino assert that the choice of the Emperor has fallen on his son Prince Joseph, who is nineteen years of age, and is now in Rome.

DURHAM CITY ELECTION.

THE nomination of candidates to supply the vacancy in the representation of this city, in consequence of the death of Mr. T. C. Grainger, took place on Wednesday, the 1st inst., upon hustings erected in front of the Town-hall, in the market-place. There was a vast concourse of spectators to witness the proceedings, and the greatest excitement prevailed. The candidates, Lord Adolphus Vane (Conservative) and Mr. H. Fenwick (Liberal), were met by their friends at their respective committee-rooms, and thence they walked in procession, with banners and music, to the hustings. The candidates having been duly proposed and seconded, next addressed the assemblage. A show of hands was then taken and decided to be in favour of Mr. Fenwick, when a poll was demanded on behalf of Lord Adolphus Vane.

The polling took place on the next day; the contest was a very sharp one.—Vane, 544; Fenwick, 497: majority for Lord Adolphus Vane, 48. The struggle is said to have been altogether unparalleled in the electioneering annals of the city. After the close of the poll Lord Adolphus Vane, accompanied by an immense multitude, proceeded from the hustings to the Rose and Crown Inn, and addressed the people from one of the windows.

Next day (Friday) the now almost obsolete custom of *chairing* the returned member was enacted; Lord Adolphus Vane being carried in triumph through the principal parts of the city, preceded by his colours, and accompanied by an enthusiastic crowd. The illustration upon the next page shows the procession passing Durham Cathedral.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AT LEEDS.

SOIREE OF THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

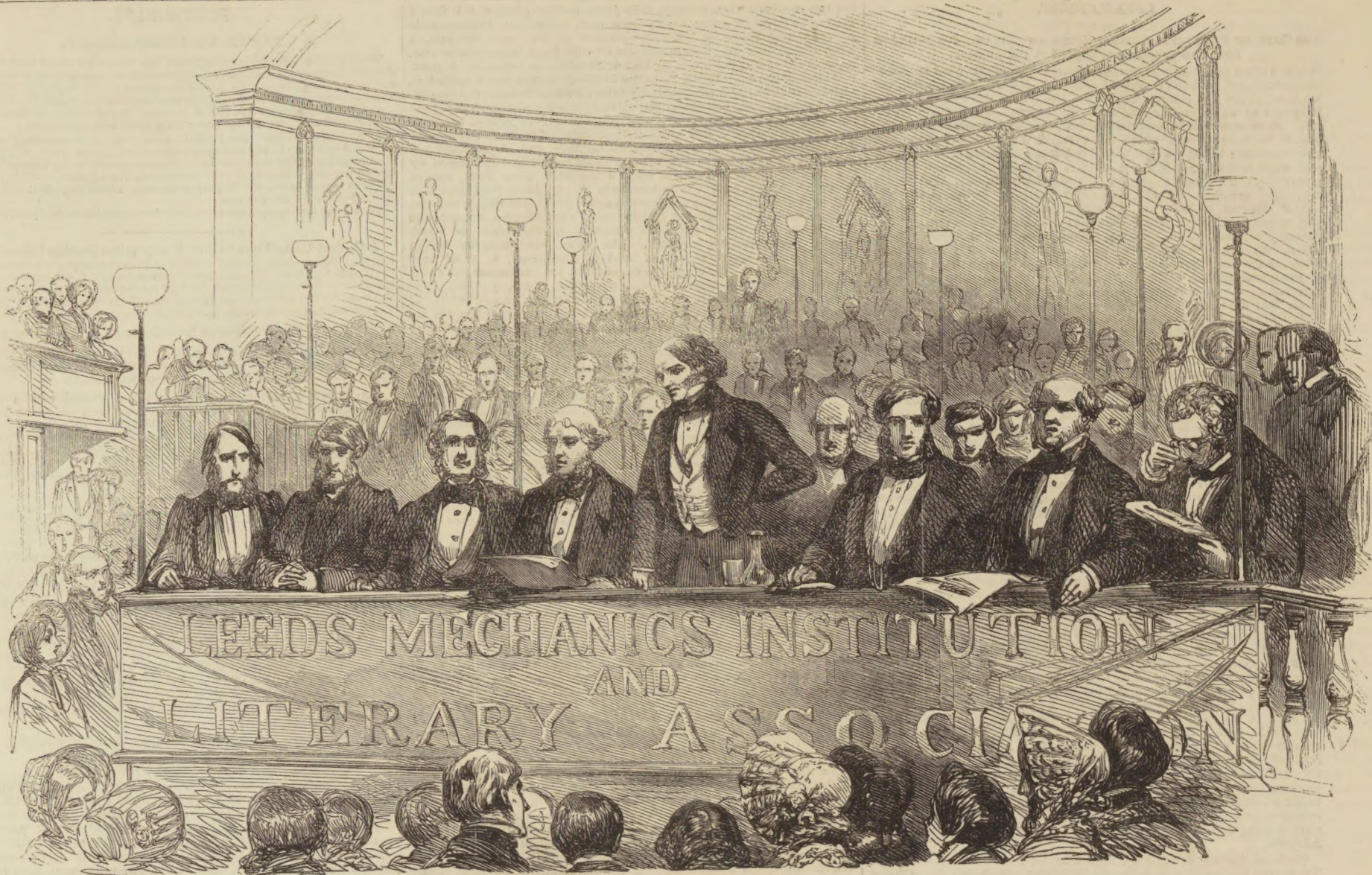
The annual *soirée* of the Leeds Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society took place on Wednesday night week in that town. The announcement that Lord J. Russell had consented to preside invested the meeting with peculiar interest, and the greatest anxiety was displayed by the members of the institution, and by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, to give a hearty welcome to the noble ex-Premier on this, his Lordship's first visit to the town of Leeds, although some forty years ago he made a tour through the neighbouring districts. The Mechanics' Institution counts upwards of 2000 members; but there being no room in the building occupied by the society which would afford accommodation to even half that number, the use of the Music-hall, the largest room in the town, was obtained for the meeting, and was completely crammed. The noble Lord's reception was most enthusiastic. After a statement of the present position and prospects of the institution had been read by Mr. Kitson, Lord John Russell addressed the meeting.

The illustration in the next page, sketched during the *soirée*, portrays Lord John Russell delivering his address. Upon his Lordship's left hand are seated Mr. Kitson, the President of the Institution; Mr. Baines, M.P.; and Sir Charles Goodman, M.P. Upon the left of Lord John Russell are seated Mr. J. G. Marshall, Lord Beaumont, the Dean of Ripon, and Mr. George Cruikshank.

After adverting to the assistance which he had given to Dr. Birkbeck in the foundation of Mechanics' Institutes, and having dwelt on the progress made by the Institute of Leeds, his Lordship remarked upon the general state of knowledge at this time, and the prospect of what is before us; observing how very different the present state of affairs is from the time when great foundations were made for the purposes of education and instruction.

Lord John then instanced several remarkable modern experiments which had all been arrived at by pursuing the Baconian method of investigation; and, while he spoke eulogistically of the discoveries in locomotion and electricity, earnestly impressed upon his hearers the practical utility of the study of astronomy, a course of discovery which was still open, and still pursued. He then observed with satisfaction on the marked improvement in mental cultivation amongst the working classes which had taken place since, forty years previously, he had noticed to be the case when he visited the manufacturing districts in company with Professor Playfair. He then turned to the subject of literature. The great point to be kept in view in literary studies and literary composition, was truth. He gave two instances—one from Young and one from Pope—of mistaken efforts to improve upon Shakespeare and Horace at the expense of truth; and he hinted that criticism of that kind would enable them to judge correctly what was worth reading, and worth remembering. Lord John said:—

I give you these two instances of want of truth even in celebrated poets, and I think it is a matter you will do well always to keep in view, because there is a remarkable difference between the history of science and the history of literature. In the history of science the progress of discovery is gradual. Those who make these discoveries sometimes commit great errors. They fall into many absurd mistakes, of which I could give you numerous instances; but these blunders and these errors disappear—the discoveries alone remain; other men afterwards make these discoveries the elements and the groundwork of new investigations, and thus the progress of science is continual; but truth remains, the methods of investigation even are shortened, and the progress continually goes on (Hear, hear). But it is not so with regard to literature. It has, indeed, happened often in the history of the world, among nations that have excelled in literature, after great works had been produced which brought down the admiration of all who could read them, that others, attempting to go further—attempting to do something still better—have produced works written in the most affected and unnatural style, and, instead of promoting literature, have corrupted the taste of the nation in which they lived (Hear, hear). Now, this is a thing against which I think we should always be upon our guard; and, having these great models of literature which we possess before us—having Shakespeare, and Milton, and Pope, and a long line of illustrious poets and authors—we should always study to see that



LORD JOHN RUSSELL AT THE SOIREE OF THE LEEDS MECHANICS' INSTITUTION AND LITERARY SOCIETY.

the literature of the day is, if not on a par with, at least as pure in point of taste as that which has gone before it, and to take care that we do not, instead of advancing in letters, fall back and decay in the productions of the time (Hear, hear).

Lord John then told his audience the cause of his coming to Leeds to preside over the meeting, which was that he might both see the progress that the Leeds mechanics were making in instructions of all kinds, and also that he might express his hopes and wishes for their welfare in the time that is to come. His Lordship continuing:—

It has been my fortune, since the active part of my life began, to live in times of peace, and to see great discoveries and great improvements. I think you will feel that we who have had the direction of affairs during that time—I speak not now of any difference of political parties or of religious sects, but taking us all together, all political parties, and men of all religious denominations—I think we have not done ill for the country during that period in which we have borne an active share in its affairs. ("Hear, hear, and cheers.") If you look back to the year 1815, when a bloody and costly struggle terminated, I think you will see that since that period, whether by the judgment of Parliament—whether by the action of great bodies and great societies—or whether by the skill and invention of individuals, the condition of the people of this land has very much improved (Hear, and cheers). While the means of sustenance have become cheaper—while the public burdens have become less—while the means of education have been improved—there has been, with these circumstances, and partly owing to these circumstances, a general

progress in society (Hear, hear). I think that we who have belonged to that time—and as, I tell you again, I wish to make no political allusion, or to claim for one party over another any advantage (Hear, hear)—but I say generally, that we who have lived in this time have, upon the whole, not ill performed our duty. It will be for you, when we retire from the more active business of this scene, to endeavour to carry on to still greater knowledge, to still more comfort, to still greater well-being, the country in which you live. There is a great charge imposed on you, and I trust you will properly perform it. Let no insane passion carry you without reason into contests with foreign countries (Loud and continued cheering). Let no unworthy prejudices induce you to withhold from any part of your countrymen that which is their due (Renewed cheering). Let no previous convictions prevent you from examining every subject with impartial eyes, and from placing before you the light of truth, which ought to guide you in your investigations (Hear, hear.) With these convictions I am persuaded you will abide by the institutions which you have, by the faith which you hold, and that you will adorn the country to which you belong (Loud and prolonged cheering).

The Right Hon. T. Baines, M.P., in a brief address, then proposed as a sentiment, "Prosperity to the Leeds Mechanics' Institution, and to all similar societies." Mr. Robert Hall supported the sentiment.

Mr. Henry Cole, C.B., proposed—"The continued extension of Schools of Design and of Class Instruction among the People: since to these in a great measure do we look for the culture of taste and the progress of such mechanical contrivances as are necessary to maintain the national

position of 'the workshop of the world.'" Professor Phillips seconded the sentiment, contending that art-institutions ought to be self-supporting, and advocating periodical exhibitions of noble works of art.

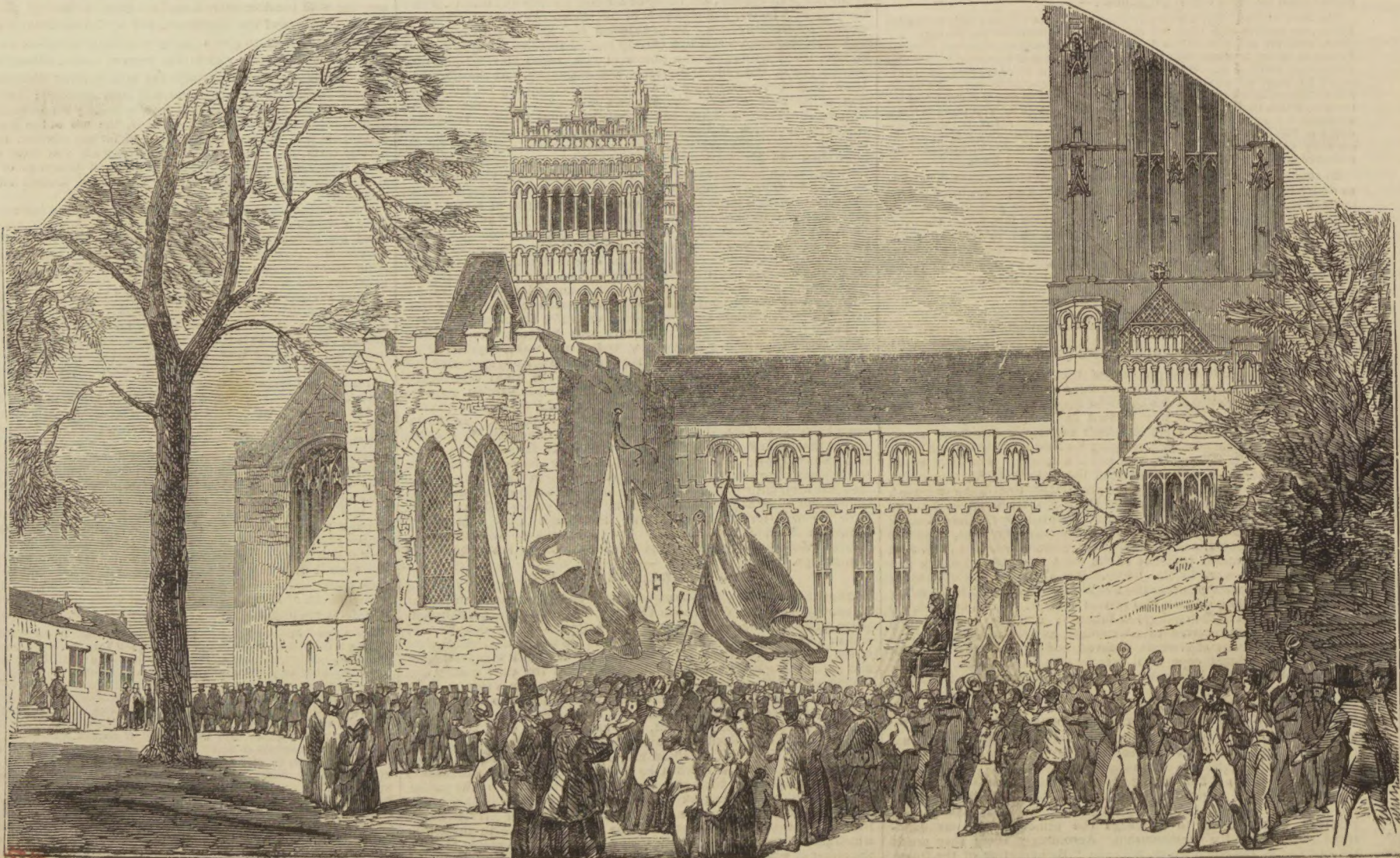
Lord Beaumont proposed "The Education of the People, may it become universal; for the wider its range and the more active its operation, so also will its aim be more noble, and its success more assured."

The Dean of Ripon seconded the sentiment.

The meeting was then addressed by other gentlemen, who proposed sentiments in accordance with the purposes of the institute; but want of space prevents us from giving insertion to their speeches.

Thanks were then voted to Lord John Russell, for his valuable service to the institution in presiding on that occasion; and to Lord Beaumont, and the other friends of education present; and the proceedings terminated.

The Town-council having resolved to take advantage of Lord John Russell's presence in Leeds, waited upon his Lordship on Thursday, headed by the Mayor, and presented an address, which touched upon the principal political events with which Lord John has been connected. His Lordship replied in an energetic and powerful speech; first adverting to the course which, in his political career, he had always endeavoured to pursue; and, he believed, in strict consonance with our institutions. In conclusion, his Lordship addressed himself to the consideration of the future.



DURHAM ELECTION.—CHAIRING OF LORD A. VANE, M.P.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICES

OF MARSHAL

VISCOUNT BERESFORD.

THE Duke of Wellington used to say of the subject of this memoir that "Lord Beresford and Lord Hill were the only two Generals who could take an army out of Hyde Park in face of an enemy." Our recent campaigns in the East have, we may hope, added one or two names to the list. But no one knew better than the Duke of Wellington that the faculty of handling large masses of troops in war is entirely distinct from the ability which enables an eminent cavalry or infantry officer to lead his particular arm of the service into action, or to decide by a dashing charge the fortunes of some hard-fought field.

William Carr Beresford, son of the first Marquis of Waterford, was born in 1768. In his seventeenth year he was sent to the Military Academy of Strasburg, where he had not remained twelve months when he received (in 1785) his commission, as Ensign, in the 6th Foot. Young Beresford arrived in Nova Scotia, where his regiment was stationed, in 1786; and in 1789 became Lieutenant in the 16th, of which regiment he is now the Colonel. In the year 1790, we find him Captain in the 69th Foot, serving as an officer of Marines, on board the *Britannia*, Admiral Lord Hood. Two companies of the 69th were then serving *pro tem.* as marines; and it may be remembered that the soldiers of the 69th rendered essential service to Nelson at the battle of Cape St. Vincent, by their alacrity in assisting him to board two Spanish first-rates. Captain Beresford was present at Toulon, and his services are honourably mentioned by Lord Mulgrave, who had accepted the command of the British troops with the rank of Brigadier-General. The French artillery at Toulon was commanded by Bonaparte, then a captain, who during this siege first displayed his military talents.

After the evacuation of Toulon, in 1793, Lord Hood determined to attack the Island of Corsica, with the view of dispossessing the French from the forts which they occupied in the island. Captain Beresford assisted in the attack upon the celebrated tower of Martello, in the bay of San Fiorenzo; and distinguished himself with so much energy in these operations that he was promoted to a Majority upon the reduction of the fort, and immediately afterwards obtained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel to command a newly-raised regiment. This regiment was afterwards distributed among others, and Colonel Beresford embarked in command of the 96th Regiment for the West Indies, in an expedition commanded by Sir Ralph Abercrombie. Admiral Christian's fleet, in which Colonel Beresford embarked, was, however, kept back by adverse winds, and the Colonel was stationed in the island of Jersey from 1797 to 1799. In the latter year he was sent to India, and reached Bombay just after the taking of Seringapatam. He formed part of the expedition under General Baird sent to Egypt by way of the Red Sea, to reinforce Sir R. Abercrombie. In Egypt Colonel Beresford remained until the year 1803, when he returned to England, and was appointed Brigadier-General, in which rank he took part, in 1805, in Sir David Baird's expedition against the Cape of Good Hope. Brigadier-General Beresford was afterwards sent to South America with a single regiment (the 71st), with which, assisted by a few marines and a small number of troops from St. Helena—in all 1200 men—he took Buenos Ayres, defended by 8000 troops. Reinforcements arriving from Monte Video, and an insurrection breaking out, he was obliged to capitulate—a contingency which he had foreseen when he took the place according to orders.

Being appointed Major-General in 1807, he was sent to take Madeira, which he did, and remained Governor of the island for eight months. He was then ordered to Portugal, where he arrived just after Sir A. Wellesley had gained the battle of Vimiero. Being sent in command of a brigade to Lisbon, he was appointed to watch the execution of the Convention of Cintra upon the side of England, with Kellermann on the

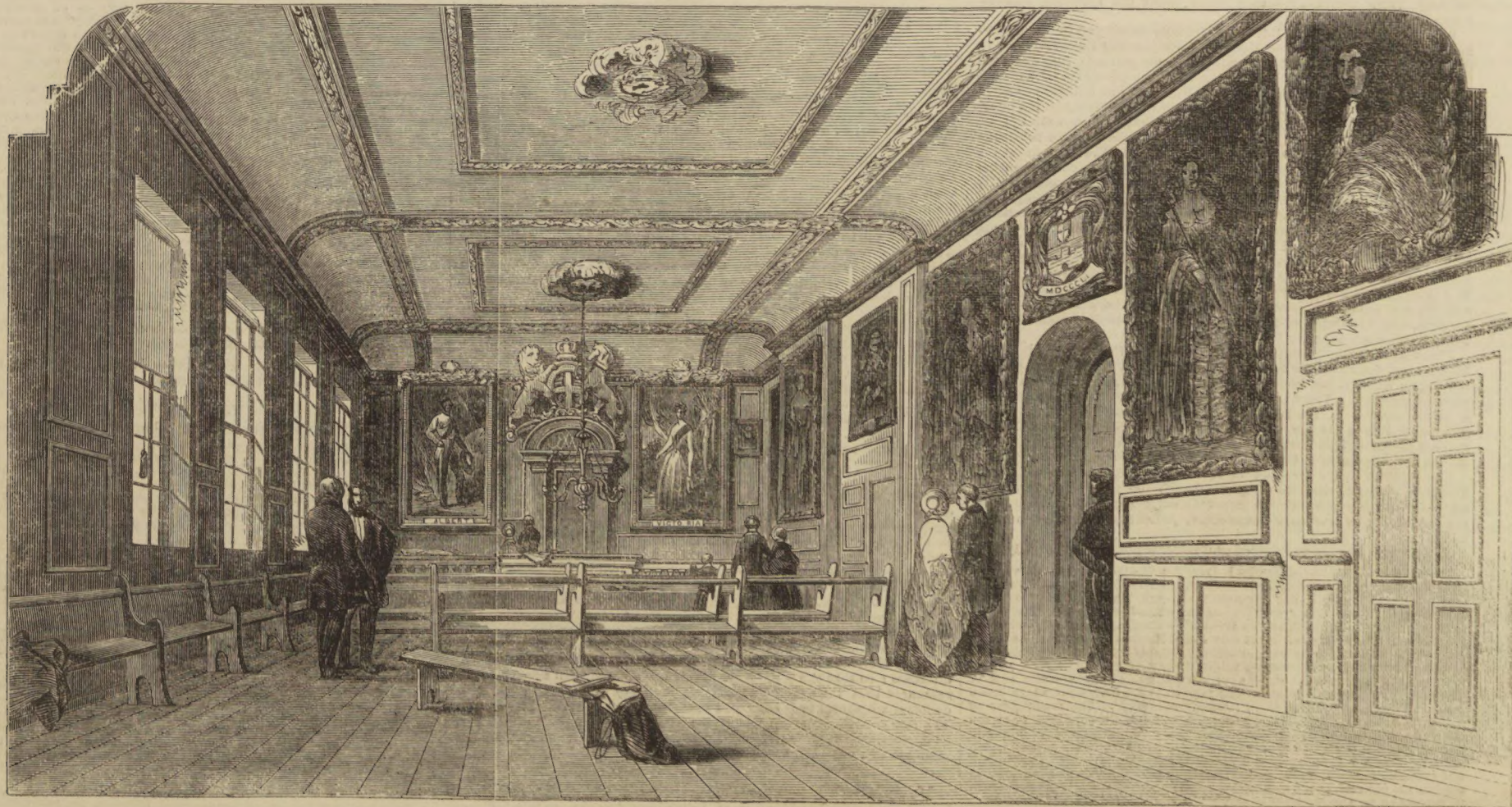


THE RIGHT HON. MARSHAL VISCOUNT BERESFORD D.C.L., G.C.B., ETC.—FROM A PAINTING BY REUBEN SAYERS.

side of France. Beresford's brigade joined Sir John Moore, and he was present at the battle of Corunna. He then returned to England.

The Portuguese Government having requested that an English officer of ability and experience might be sent out to take the command of the Portuguese army, Major-General Beresford was selected by the English Government for this arduous and difficult service. He accepted the appointment, and went to Portugal, with the rank of Marshal in the Portuguese army. It is by many supposed that the army under Beresford was entirely officered by Englishmen; but this is a mistake. There were English officers in it, but the majority were Portuguese. In a few months Marshal Beresford had organized this army, and brought it into a state of efficiency which enabled him to render the Great Duke the most essential service during his Peninsular campaigns. He took part in the fiercely-contested battle of Busaco, and was rewarded by the Order of the Bath (when the order consisted of a single degree). The Order of the Tower and Sword of Portugal was also conferred upon him by the Portuguese Government, and he was made Count of Francoso, in Portugal.

losses which they had sustained, I think this action one of the most glorious and honourable to the character of the troops of any that has been fought during the war." Besides 2000 Spaniards and 500 Germans and Portuguese placed *hors de combat*, the British casualties amounted to 4407—an enormous loss, when it is remembered that little more than 6500 English soldiers were actually on the battle-ground. Almost all the field-officers were killed or wounded. The loss sustained by the 57th, known afterwards by the sobriquet of the "die-hards," stands without a parallel. Its strength, when led into fire, was about 570 bayonets; and its casualties, at two o'clock, were 23 officers, and above 400 rank and file. Soult's total loss exceeded 8000 men. Beresford, in a despatch to Wellington, said—"It is impossible by any description to do justice to the distinguished gallantry of the troops; but every individual most nobly did his duty, which will be well proved by the great loss we have suffered through repulsing the enemy; and it was observed that our dead, particularly the 57th Regiment, were lying as they had fought in ranks, and every wound was in the front." The Duke also bore this high testimony to Marshal Beresford's success in



THE TOWN-HALL, WINDSOR; WITH THE PORTRAITS OF HER MAJESTY AND HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT, RECENTLY PRESENTED.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

organising the Portuguese army. "We do what we please now with the Portuguese troops; we manoeuvre them under fire equally with our own, and have some dependence on them; but these Spaniards can do nothing but stand still, and we consider ourselves fortunate if they do not run away."

Marshal Beresford was present at the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo, and also assisted at the fall of Badajoz. On the 22d July he was severely wounded at the Battle of Salamanca, but was enabled to share in the brilliant victory of Vittoria. In 1813 the Marshal commanded a division at Nivelle and Nive, and had a considerable share in winning the battle of Orthez. He also greatly distinguished himself at Toulouse, where, in April, 1814, the Peninsular campaigns were brought to a final and victorious conclusion.

Marshal Beresford participated in the honours and rewards which were showered upon the Duke of Wellington and his gallant companions in arms at the peace of 1814. He was created a Baron of the United Kingdom under the title of Baron Beresford, of Albuera and Dungarvan; and Parliament awarded an annuity of £2000 to himself and his two immediate successors in the Peerage. After a short *sejour* in England, Lord Beresford returned to Portugal, where he remained until 1820, the Government of Portugal (the Regency) opposing his arrangements on behalf of the army, and withholding their pay. He then embarked for Rio Janeiro, where the King of Portugal, John VI., still resided, having always refused, since his flight, to return to Europe. The Marshal succeeded in obtaining the King's recognition of the justice of his claims, and he then returned to Lisbon. But, having been detained three months in Rio, he returned to Europe, and the insurrection he had anticipated had broken out in Portugal, and that a change of Government had taken place. The authorities refused him permission to land, and he accordingly set out for England. Upon his arrival he placed in the hands of the Portuguese Minister in London the money he had obtained in the Brazil for the payment of the troops.

In 1823 the Marshal obtained another step in the Peerage, being created a Viscount of the United Kingdom. When the Duke of Wellington took office in 1828, he sent for his old Peninsular fellow-campaigner and offered him the post of Master-General of the Ordnance, the duties of which Viscount Beresford discharged during the entire Wellington Administration.

In November, 1832 the subject of our memoir married his cousin Annie, daughter of the Most Rev. William Beresford, Archbishop of Tuam, and first Baron Decies (and of his wife Elizabeth, sister of Lord Chancery Lord Clare), and widow of Thomas Hore, Esq., of the Deepdene, Surrey, and Duchess of London, of the Amsterdam branch of the Hope family, author of "Anastasia," "Costumes of the Ancients," "History of Architecture," &c., &c. Her Ladyship died in July, 1851.

The Marshal has earned many brilliant decorations. He has a cross of seven clasps for eleven battles—Corunna, Busaco, Albuera, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle and Nive, Orthez, Toulouse, and Pyrenees. The uninitiated in military decorations may not be aware that one, two, or three battles were honoured by so many clasps. The fourth bar changed the form of the decorations into a cross. The excess above four was again commemorated by clasps from which the cross was suspended. Viscount Beresford has also a medal and two clasps for Egypt and Ciudad Rodrigo. Since the death of the Duke of Wellington, no English General can point to a longer or more splendid list of achievements and distinctions, as the recapitulation of Marshal Beresford's titles will sufficiently prove:—

William Carr Beresford, Viscount Beresford, of Beresford Hall, Staffordshire (creation March 28th, 1823); Baron Beresford, of Albuera and Dungarvan (creation May 17th, 1814); Marquis of Campo Mayor, and Count of Francisco, in Portugal; Privy Counsellor; G.C.B.; G.C.H.; Tower and Sword of Portugal; St. Ferdinand and St. Hermenegilde of Spain; General in the British service (fifth General) brevet of 1825; Colonel-in-Chief of the 60th (King's Royal) Rifles, succeeding H.R.H. Prince Albert in the command of this regiment, when the Prince took the title Brigade on the death of the Duke of Wellington; Colonel of the 16th Foot; Governor of Jersey; Marshal-General "junior la real persona" in Portugal, a distinction which gives him the right to be Commander-in-Chief of the Portuguese Army when with the Sovereign; Captain-General of Spain, a rank analogous to that of Marshal (commission of 1811); Governor of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich; and a Commissioner of the Military College and Military Asylum.

Marshal Beresford's commission as Captain-General of Spain was issued in June, 1811, upon the same day as the commission of the late Duke of Wellington to the same rank. Since the death of the Duke of Wellington and the Duke of Baylen, Lord Beresford is head of the armies of Spain and Portugal. He is now the Senior Marshal of Europe, and the only living Marshal who received his bâton during the war. Long may this illustrious Englishman live to enjoy the laurels gained by his chivalrous courage and heroic endurance!

Lord Beresford's seat is Bedbury Park, Kent, and Beresford Hall, Staffordshire. Of late years the noble Lord has lived a good deal in the country, attending to the improvement of his estates.

Beresford's exploits and prowess in the Peninsular War have been immortalised by Sir Walter Scott in his "Vision of Don Roderick."

The accompanying portrait is from a picture lately painted by Mr. Reuben Sayers, of St. Peter's-square, Hammersmith; who has also published a well-executed copperplate engraving of the picture.

THE TOWN-HALL, WINDSOR.

The Corporation of Windsor have just completed the restoration of their Town-hall, in handsome style; and have received a very interesting addition to the collection of portraits which grace the walls of that building. This presentation took place under the following circumstances.

Early in the present year it was incidentally mentioned by Mr. Alderman Bedborough to Col. the Hon. C. B. Phipps that the alterations in the Town hall would leave two vacant places for portraits, and that the Corporation would feel highly honoured by the possession of the likenesses of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, to add to their collection of paintings. On the evening of the day when the interview took place, Mr. Bedborough received a letter from Col. Phipps, stating that he had laid the worthy Alderman's communication before her Majesty and the Prince, and he had been commanded to state that the Queen and his Royal Highness would have great pleasure in presenting their portraits to the Mayor and Corporation. It was subsequently arranged that the size of the whole-length portraits of King George III. and Queen Charlotte (painted by Copley), would best suit the positions in which it was intended to place the portraits of the Queen and Prince Albert. The artist selected was Mr. Corden, who has copied two portraits by Winterhalter, taken six years ago. Her Majesty is represented wearing a wreath of flowers as a head-dress, and a robe of white satin. The Queen wears the Order of the Garter, with the George suspended, and the star on the left breast. Prince Albert wears a Field-Marshal's uniform, with the Order of the Garter, and that of the Golden Fleece. The paintings are superbly framed.

The value of the honour conferred upon the Royal borough by her Majesty and the Prince, is considerably enhanced by the kind and prompt manner in which it has been made. No gift could, certainly, have been more appropriate. The hall was built in the reign of Queen Anne, and is being restored in the reign of Queen Victoria. Portraits of Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark have long adorned its walls and marked the date of its erection. Portraits of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert will now serve to fix the period of its restoration.

The painting and decoration of the Court-room are in good taste. The style is that of the time of Queen Anne; the removal of some unsightly pillars is a considerable improvement. The Hall is lighted by gas in handsome or-moulu chandeliers, presented by Major-General Reid.

The pictures have been restored and re-arranged chronologically.

The portrait of the ill-fated Charles I. (says the *Windsor Express*) shows that Royalty looked with favour upon the burgesses, before the struggle between the Crown and the Parliament had completely absorbed the attention of its most distinguished victim. The "merry monarch" reminds us that the charters of the borough were confirmed, and its privileges extended, immediately after the restoration. The absence of the gloomy James II. goes to show that the Papist King had as little sympathy with, or affection for, his immediate neighbours, as he had capacity for governing a free and Protestant people. The dark yet intellectual and expressive countenance of William III., and the cheerful look of Queen Mary, indicate that New Windsor profited by the movement which drove James into exile, and secured the Protestant succession. The many form of Princes George of Denmark, and the benignant smile of Queen Anne, carry the mind back to the days when Sir Christopher Wren was a burgess of Windsor, and supplied the plans for the present Town-hall. During the reign of Queen Anne the town was in high favour with the Court. The Hanoverian succession was not immediately advantageous to the interests of Windsor, and we look in vain for the portraits of the first and second Georges. But when the Royal race of Brunswick became acclimatised—with the advent of the first English-born King—we find the Royal borough again assume its old position. The fact is verified by the full-length portraits of George III. and Queen Charlotte, from the pencil of Copley. The appearance of the majestic form of George IV., by

Sir Thomas Lawrence, is an equally convincing proof that Windsor still continued to enjoy the favour of its Sovereign. And here we must note a gap in the silent yet speaking record of the past—a gap which we hope to see speedily filled up—there is no portrait either of Windsor's most munificent patron, William IV., or of "the good Queen Adelaide."

Beside the Recorder's seat are placed the portraits of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, already described.

At the annual meeting of the Town-council, lately held, a resolution expressive of the deep sense of gratitude felt by the Corporation to her Majesty and Prince Albert for the spontaneous and munificent present of their portraits, wherewith to decorate the Town-hall, was passed by acclamation. At the same time, a letter conveying the thanks of the Council to Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps, for the kind manner in which he had seconded the wishes of the town, was unanimously adopted.

MUSIC.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

The performance of Handel's "Messiah," at Exeter-hall, on the 10th instant, under Costa's direction, was superlatively fine. The choruses and accompaniments were executed in a style of excellence impossible to surpass. It was not merely wonderful exactness and precision in taking up the points, but the highest order of dramatic and picturesque beauty in the general expression was attained; and it is not too much to add, that the *ensemble* was more magnificent than on any former occasion. The *scito voce*, in the chorus, "For unto us a child is born," and the gradual swelling of the voices, until they arrived at the fortissimo, "Wonderful, counsellor," quite electrified the enormous auditory, which filled the hall to overflow.

The solo singers were Madame Fiorentini, Miss Birch, Miss Dolby and Mr. Lockey. It was the first appearance of Madame Fiorentini at Exeter-hall, and unusual interest had been excited in musical circles to ascertain how the *prima donna* of Her Majesty's Theatre, and of the Paris and Berlin Italian Opera-houses, would acquit herself in the sacred school. She was allotted the bravura air, "Rejoice greatly," in the first part; and the air in the second part, "But thou didst not leave." As it was her *début*, it would have been more politic and just to have assigned to her some of the recitatives. It was no ordinary trial for Madame Fiorentini, after the chorus, "Glory to God," to begin at once on such a difficult piece of vocalization as that of "Rejoice greatly," but the superb quality of her unrivalled soprano voice, and her truly Handelian style of executing the divisions, were so unmistakable, that a burst of approbation was elicited, from all parts of the Hall, notwithstanding the rules against applause. The demonstrations of gratification at the close of her second air, were equally striking and irresistible. The success of Madame Fiorentini was, therefore, decidedly great, and there is every reason to be gratified at this result, at a period when the number of our leading singers of the sacred school was becoming so limited. Madame Fiorentini now only requires time and practice to complete the studies she has so excellently begun. She reverently adheres to the text, and this simplicity, if it had been accompanied with more decision of accent and additional fervour, would have left nothing to be desired. Every allowance must, of course, be made for the nervousness of a *début*, but the qualifications of the new-comer, to occupy a place in the first rank of singers of sacred music, were unmistakable; and the society will have ample reason to be gratified at the resolution taken by Madame Fiorentini to study the oratorios of the great masters. Her voice is truly sympathetic, as well as powerful; her intonation is unerring, and her executive capabilities are thoroughly artistic. She sang the music, also, with a full appreciation of the composer's theme and intention; and, if some improvements may be made in taking the time of the second air, nothing more has to be urged in the way of adverse criticism. The great secret in the sacred school of vocalisation is to be dramatic—without being theatrical. This happy medium Madame Fiorentini has evidently sought to acquire, only in her natural desire not to be regarded too operatic, she sacrificed a little of the brilliancy which she has so efficiently displayed in secular works. A great career is open to her, and her successive appearances, in the "Elijah," "Paul," the "Creation," "Samson," &c., will be looked for with the greatest interest.

MUSICAL EVENTS.

The third of the St. John's-wood Subscription Concerts was given on Tuesday night, in the room, Grove-end-road. The vocalists were Madame Fiorentini, Madame Ferrari, Mr. Lockey, and Signor Ferrari; and the solo instrumentalists Mr. G. Forbes and Mr. W. H. Holmes (pianoforte), and Regondi (concertina). Madame Fiorentini, although labouring under indisposition, which compelled her to omit some pieces set down for her in the programme, was called upon to repeat the cavatina from Donizetti's "Maria di Rohan." An apology was made for her, but she persevered in singing the duet "Sull' aria," with Madame Ferrari. The room was quite full, and the concert went off well, although the illness of the popular *prima donna* caused no little disappointment.

Miss Ransford is giving a series of *soirées musicales* at her residence in Welbeck-street. In Tuesday's programme she sang, with her father and brother, in Calcott's glee, "When time was twining," and joined Mr. Benson and Mr. Ransford in John Barnett's trio, "The magic-wave scarf." Miss Ransford also gave a bravura by Sir Henry Bishop, "When peace inviting," and a Scotch ballad, very cleverly. Miss Bassano and Mr. Burdini were the other vocalists, and Middle Coulton and Mr. Lindsay Sloper were the pianists. A new ballad, by Mr. J. L. Hatton, "Songs should breathe of scents and flowers," excellently sung by Mr. Benson, was one of the most pleasing and attractive items in the scheme. Costa's effective four-part canon, "Ecco quel fiero istante" was well rendered by the Misses Ransford and Bassano, Messrs. Benson and Burdini.

Middle Mächer, a pianiste of ability, had an evening concert, on Wednesday, at the Manor-rooms, Hackney, under the direction of Herr Anschuetz and Herr Wolfsohn; the solo players were Herr Kreutzer (violin), and Herr Lutgen (violoncello), and the vocalists, Misses Birch and Lascelles, Mr. A. Pierre (a tenor of promise), and Mr. F. Edda. Middle E. St. Marc gave a *soirée musicale* on Wednesday, at the Queen-Anne-street Rooms, assisted by Misses Cicely Nott, Rose Braham, and Lowe; Messrs. Donald King, Drayton, Paglieri, V. Collins, R. Blagrove, and Renuat; with Pliotti and Le Colsi as accompanists. The annual *soirée musicale* and ball given by the gentlemen pupils of the Royal Academy of Music took place at the Institution, in Tenterden-street, Hanover-square, on the 9th inst. The display of talent on the part of the students was very gratifying: Miss Annie Buckland (in a poetic romance by Mr. R. Thomas, "Rusabelle"), Miss Diana Dixon (in a pretty air, by Mr. C. Lucas, "The clouds from out the sky"), and Miss Beattie Broad (in a song, by Mr. A. O'Leary, with a violoncello obligato, played by Mr. Ings), won the suffrages of their auditory. The advent of a very promising baritone, in Mr. Walter Bolton, must be specified: he sang with taste and feeling Macfarren's charming melody, "Beautiful night," from the "Sleeper Awakened"—a cantata, which ought to take the proportions of an opera, and which must be, sooner or later, heard on the stage, should we ever obtain a really national lyric establishment. At the *matinée* at Erard's Saloon, in Great Marlborough-street, last Tuesday, Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," arranged for four harps by Herr Oerthur, was executed by the composer, Mr. T. Wright, Mr. Boleyn Reeves, and Mr. Trust; and Messrs. T. Wright and B. Reeves also performed a grand *duo concertante* for two harps. Mr. John Edney delivered his vocal entertainment at the Westminster Institution on Thursday. The first concert of the Harmonic Union took place last night at Exeter-hall, under Benedict's direction: a notice of the performance will be published in the ensuing week's number. Miss Dolby's third and last *soirée* will be next Tuesday. On Wednesday the Sacred Harmonic Society, under Costa's direction, will perform the "Messiah." Madame Fiorentini making her second appearance at Exeter-hall in this oratorio.

Next Thursday Dr. Mackay's elegy, "Mourn for the Mighty Dead," the music by Sir H. R. Bishop, will be performed at Exeter-hall by the London Sacred Harmonic Society, under Mr. Surman's direction, preceding Mendelssohn's "Elijah." Berlioz is no longer the conductor of the New Philharmonic Society, the concerts of which are announced to begin in March at Exeter-hall, and Mr. Beale has withdrawn from the direction; so that the society at present has neither head nor tail. It is rumoured that the new managers are in treaty with Spohr; but it is doubtful whether, at his advanced age, he will again visit this country. The loss of Berlioz is irreparable; he was the "great gun" of the performances, not only for his magnificent compositions, but also for his immense tact and skill as a conductor.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.—These popular entertainments were brought to a close last Monday, at Drury-lane Theatre, with a brilliant *Bal Masqué*. The house was crowded to excess, the spectators being much more numerous than the masqueraders.

THE THEATRES, &c.

OLYMPIC.—THE NEW TRAGIC ACTRESS.

On Thursday "The Hunchback" was performed, for the purpose of enabling Miss Edith Heraud to make her *début* before a London public. Of this lady, for the last year or two, we have recorded the progress at different provincial theatres, and have now to report her perfect success on the metropolitan boards. On her first entrance she appeared timid; but, soon recovering herself, entered with grace and facility into the comic spirit of the early scenes. But as the action of the play developed itself, and the consequences of the indiscretion of Julia grew upon her, she showed herself capable of the highest tragic emotion. Her scene in the fourth act with Clifford took an exceedingly strong hold on the house; and the effect produced was without artificiality—almost, indeed, without apparent effort. Indeed, the peculiar charms of Miss Heraud's acting are—its naturalness—its total absence of rant and violence—its quiet and deep force—and its womanly tenderness, rising at times to be almost intensely pathetic. Her appeal to *Master Walter* to avert the dreaded nuptials was chaste, vigorous, highly effective, and, in some of its nicer details, perfectly original.

The entire play was excellently cast. Mr. Hoskins acted with earnestness and picturesque effect in *Master Walter*, a character out of his usual line of parts; but the manner in which he realised this difficult assumption proves that he merits to take a higher rank than he usually does in the leading rôles of the legitimate drama. *Helen*, and impersonated by Miss Harriet Gordon, was natural and spirited, and in the gayer phases of it was charmingly interpreted. Mr. Shalders also came before us in a new light as *Modes*, and threw a freshness into this eccentric character which will be readily appreciated. Nor can our notice be closed without commending as it deserves Mr. W. Farren, jun., in *Sir Thomas Clifford*: the affectionate ardour with which he responded to the devotion of Julia was, what in other hands it seldom is, that of the lover and the gentleman. The whole performance excited the enthusiasm of the audience, and the reception given to Miss Heraud was of the most decided. Her appearance is very youthful, but graceful and prepossessing. The few faults we were enabled to discover in her performance, were traceable to her youth alone, and there can be little or no doubt that with time, study, and judicious management, she will, if health and strength be afforded her, become deservedly eminent and popular, and a valuable addition to the stage. She was summoned before the curtain at the end of the fourth as well as of the fifth act, and received the hearty applause of the audience.

LYCEUM.

Two new farces have been produced this week. On Monday, an adaptation from the French, entitled "A Phenomenon in a Smock Frock," in which Mr. C. Mathews performs the principal part, that of a truth-loving milkman, one *John Buttercup*, who is patronised in his blunt speaking by Mr. Sowerberry (Mr. F. Matthews), a philosopher, who has been duped by his tradespeople and domestics, and desiderates, as Lord Brougham would phrase it, simplicity of character, until he has himself occasion for the employment of disguise. The character is broadened in its effects by the use of the Somersetshire dialect, which gives to his precepts against expediency and his perpetual interference an annoying force and coarseness. Having established the proposition that "Truth is not to be spoken at all times," the playwright brings his little drama to a conclusion with perfect success.

The second farce was produced on Wednesday, entitled "Little Toddekins." This piece is from the French "La Soite d'un Premier Lit," and is extremely funny. The heroine is the unwisely stepdaughter of a man eighteen years younger than herself, and the gist of the humour proceeds from the oddity of this relation. The farce was received throughout, and at the close, with most unmistakable laughter.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

The Marionettes have added to their *répertoire* the opera of "Guy Mannering," and have appointed their *dramatis personæ* with remarkable *vraisemblance*, and provided for the business of the scene with wonderful facility. The improvements made in the faces of these ligneous actors—particularly regarding the movements of the lips—lend singular expressiveness to their gestures. As a Christmas entertainment, we expect them to prove eminently successful.

PRINCESS.—The veteran Mr. Bartley's benefit is announced for next Saturday, as the fiftieth anniversary of his appearance on the stage, and the last time of his performing before the public. It is stated that he will make a farewell speech on the occasion. We trust that this closing opportunity of doing honour to an excellent actor and most respectable man will be taken advantage of by all admirers of histrionic talent, and in a manner significant of Mr. Bartley's great merits.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE DERBY ELECTION.—The committee assembled on Wednesday, and sat, as usual, with closed doors. The witnesses examined were Mr. Cox, one of the brothers of Mr. G. K. Cox, of Derby; Thomas Lund, cattle-dealer, living at Berwick-on-Tweed; Morgan, and Fraill. On Thursday the committee again met and agreed to the following report, which was communicated to the House of Commons the same evening by Mr. Goulburn.—"The committee have gone into the allegations of the petition, and they have to report thereupon, that they have examined witnesses and heard counsel in support of the petition, as well as on behalf of the Right Hon. Major Beresford, the Secretary at War, and they have agreed to the following resolution, namely, to report that, respecting the specific allegations contained in the petition before them, the evidence which was taken satisfied them that an organised system of bribery and corruption was carried out at the last election for the borough of Derby. That the Right Hon. Major Beresford wrote a letter to a Mr. Fraill of Shrewsbury. That letter, which has already been before the public as one of the W.B. series, was to the effect that a good and safe man was wanted at Derby, but as Mr. Fraill could not be spared from Shrewsbury, he must send some one in his place. The letter also gave explicit directions by which such a person was to make himself known at Derby, and was signed 'W.B.' That, in consequence of the said letter, a Mr. Morgan was sent to Derby by Mr. Fraill, acting on the instructions which he had received, and subsequently Morgan was apprehended in Derby while engaged in carrying out the plan of the organised system of bribery proved before the committee. Your committee do not find that there is sufficient evidence to satisfy their minds that the organised schemes of corruption referred to in the petition were known to the Right Hon. member the Secretary at War; but your committee are of opinion that the equivocal expressions of the letter ought at least to have suggested to the writer the idea of the improper use to which that letter might be and was applied, and your committee are of opinion that the terms of the letter show a reckless indifference to consequences which they cannot too highly censure." The report was ordered to be printed.

LISBURN.—The Lord Advocate has been again unsuccessful. The numbers were—Mr. Smyth, 99; Mr. Ingis, 87.

MERTHYR TYDIL.—Mr. H. A. Bruce was elected on Wednesday, in the room of the late Sir John Guest, deceased.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—On Thursday a special meeting of this company was held at the Paddington station—Charles Russell, Esq., in the chair—when it was resolved to apply to Parliament for powers to construct a line to be called the Devon and Dorset Railway, from Maiden Newton on the Wilts and Somerset Railway, to Stoke-common, on the Bristol and Exeter Railway, a distance of forty-eight miles, with branches to Bridport and Bournemouth, thus completing the western coast line. The whole expense is estimated at £1,000,000, which is to be divided into equal proportions between the Great Western and Bristol and Exeter Companies.

THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.—The example set by Lord Charlemont has been quickly followed by the Earl of Yarrowburgh. His Lordship has, in a very cordial manner, expressed his intention to contribute to the exhibition a large number of pictures from his well-known gallery at Brocklesby, and of statues from Appuldurcombe, Isle of Wight.

HAILEYBURY COLLEGE.—The half-yearly examination at this institution took place on Monday, when the chairman and directors of the East India Company, and a large party of friends assembled.

THE BIRMINGHAM CATTLE SHOW was opened to the public on Tuesday, and appears to have sustained its usual character, but the poultry formed the leading and most attractive feature of the whole exhibition. The number of pens this year exceeds that of last by 200, and the sales on Tuesday in this department amounted to 1160. The dinner on Wednesday, owing to the present discussions in Parliament, was not so influentially attended as on former occasions.

CHARITABLE BEQUEST.—The late Miss Elizabeth Harrison, formerly of South Lambeth, but late of Camden-road, Holloway, has bequeathed £200 to St. Luke's Parochial Schools; £200 to the British Foreign Bible Society; £200 to the Church Missionary Society, and £200 to a *Chaplaincy* of the *Diocese*.



"IRELAND'S EYE," DUBLIN BAY.

site the harbour of Howth: the nearest point to the latter being a place called Broad Patch, situated at the extreme end of the island. Slanting to the west from this place were two strands, one of which was considerably longer than the other—that at the extreme west end leading towards the remains of a martello tower, and being one of the points where boats usually landed, and which was the place at which Mr. and Mrs. Kirwan landed on the 6th of September last. Upon a flat ground between the tower and the Black Patch were the ruins of an old church; and at the back of the Black Patch, at a part of the island which was cut off view of Howth Harbour, was a place called the Long Pole, into which the tide came, and which was always filled with water when it was fully in; but when the tide was completely out, the Long Pole was left altogether dry. The boatman and Mr. Kirwan, in searching for Mrs. Kirwan, went through a considerable portion of the island until they came to the Long Pole: there was a small rock there, and on this rock the body was found. At the time it was found, ten o'clock P.M., the rock was quite dry, and the tide was removed six feet from it."

THE LONDON NECROPOLIS AND NATIONAL MAUSOLEUM.

THE Burial Act, passed at the end of the last Parliament, though brought in by a new Ministry, was in truth the embodiment of foregone conclusions. The Legislature had affirmed as principles that the dead must no longer be buried amongst the living; that to open new cemeteries, or burial grounds in urban districts, would be to perpetuate the evils already deplored; that the new cemeteries must be at a considerable distance from the metropolis, yet that regard must be had to the convenience of transit and access. The new act empowers the Secretary of State to close the existing churchyards wherever necessary, and calls upon parishes to form burial boards; which boards are to provide new burial grounds, none of which may be opened within two hundred yards of any dwelling-house, without the written permission of the owner or occupier. This is tantamount to the prevention of all burial-places, save at a distance from the metropolis.

The hardship and attendant difficulties of this interdiction, however, appear to have been much removed by the act of the London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company, passed a short time previous to the Government Burial Act. The site of the Necropolis (of which we have engraved a view) is at Woking-common, adjoining the South-Western Railway, and about half a mile from the Woking station. The cemetery comprises 2000 acres, and is to be so arranged that parishes may secure certain portions for their own burial-grounds, over which they will exercise every control, without any immediate expenditure of the parish funds. The cost of the ground is included in the charges for each interment. In the centre of this vast area an edifice is to be erected, in which the service of the Church of England will be performed, and suitable buildings and arrangements will be made to provide for the obsequies and interment of the members of every religious denomination. There are also to be stations and reception-rooms for arrival and departure, a manager's house and offices, stabling, an hotel, a lodge entrance, a bell tower, a church, two auxiliary churches, a central monumental plateau, while seats and alcoves will be numerous. The extreme length of the ground is three miles, and the breadth, half a mile. The situation is well chosen, and commands most extensive views of the surrounding country, which is gently undulating, studded with woods, and softened by fertile fields and pastures. On either side hills of considerable magnitude arise, and fruitful valleys lie between, so that the site is really a graceful panorama, and presents exactly that style of picturesque beauty which should distinguish a cemetery of such a vast national character. From the Waterloo Terminus, the most central in the metropolis, the cemetery can be reached in thirty minutes, and the whole journey to and fro, including the time occupied in the interment, may be effected in two hours. The tariff of charges is to be such as to effect a saving to the community of twenty-five per cent. on the present cost of sepulture; 15s. will be the charge for a pauper funeral, including conveyance of two attendants to Woking and back, and £1 5s. for the class immediately above the extremely poor.

A report having been circulated that the site was a low boggy part of Woking-common, the directors of the company issued invitations in September to about 250 of the principal officers of the metropolitan parishes, who were conveyed by special train to Woking, when resolutions were passed, stating that the site was "admirably adapted for the purpose;" and that it was "a national cemetery of such an extent as to meet all the requirements of the metropolis."

The Secretary of State has already exercised his powers upon some of the parish burial-grounds, which are ordered to be closed, and new burial-places to be provided forthwith. We understand that several parishes have made application to the Necropolis Company for allotments of ground. Leaving the officers to act according to their discretion for their several parishes, we must rejoice that the time is coming when hideous fever will no longer be assisted in its career by the decay of those who have already fallen victims to its ravages; and that, ere long, the horrors of intramural sepulture will be among the historical facts of a bygone age.

The whole has been designed and laid out by Mr. H. R. Abraham, the projector and architect of the Westminster Improvements.

WILLIAM MARTIN, THE CENTENARIAN.

This aged man, who died on the 14th ult., was born at Ewell, near Epsom, on the 10th March, 1750. His parents were farmers, in good circumstances, who apprenticed him to his uncle, a builder, which business he afterwards carried on himself for many years. He subsequently resided at Poole, in Dorsetshire; the goal of which town was built by



THE LATE WILLIAM MARTIN, AGED 102.

him. At Poole he married. He afterwards resided for fourteen years at Harrow-on-the-Hill, where he built the parsonage. He seems, however, to have been unfortunate in business; for, throughout an unusually long career, he never contrived to store up for his later years. Martin possessed all his faculties till within a short period of his death; to the last he wrote without the aid of spectacles. The style and clearness of his writing would shame many a younger hand. Martin possessed a retentive memory, and his recollection of public events, over his pipe and cup of coffee, relieved the monotony of many an hour. His spiritual wants were carefully tended by the Rev. Thomas Dale, the vicar of St. Pancras, in which parish he died. He was buried in the Old Church.

The accompanying Portrait of Martin is from a sketch by Mr. Robert Nunn, an amateur artist, through whose intervention the old man was honoured by the notice of the Queen, who, on more than one occasion, sent substantial presents, which were delivered by one of her Majesty's messengers.

Martin's widow is upwards of eighty years of age.

Last month Mr. Mungo Murray, who kept a draper's shop in Crieff, Perthshire, for the very long period of upwards of seventy years, died, at the age of 103 years.—*Inverness Courier*.



THE LONDON NECROPOLIS AND NATIONAL MAUSOLEUM, WOKING, SURREY.



THE FALLEN EAST CLIFF, AT HASTINGS.—(FROM A DAGUERRETYPE BY CONNOP AND WHITE.)

FALL AT THE EAST CLIFF, HASTINGS.

ON Sunday week, at noon, two enormous "falls" of the East Cliff, at Hastings, took place at the easternmost groine, about a quarter of an hour intervening between each fall. The crash is described as resembling thunder, and the rise of the dust like a column of smoke. The total fall comprised several hundred tons of rock, sand, and earth, some of the fragments rolling a considerable distance down the beach. A wooden tool-house was knocked to pieces, but providentially no person was injured. A man and a woman had just passed to the eastward when the first fall took place; and, on witnessing the danger they had so narrowly escaped, the woman fainted on the beach. The continued rains, and the grubbings of the sand-diggers, are supposed to have led to this unusually large fall. A Daguerreotype of the scene was immediately taken by Messrs. Connop and White, whence the accompanying illustration has been engraved.

GREAT NORTH OF SCOTLAND RAILWAY.

THE ceremony of turning the first turf on this important line of railway took place on Thursday, the 25th ult., in a field on the grounds of

Sir James Elphinstone, at Westhall. The proprietary of the adjoining districts turned out almost without exception, some coming from Banff and Elgin; and a numerous and respectable body making their appearance from Aberdeen in omnibuses, appropriately decorated with red, green, and white railway signals, union jacks, and other bunting in profusion. The contractors arrived from Aberdeen in a handsome drag. The Lord Provost and magistrates of Aberdeen, with the City Clerk and Chamberlain, drove up in a carriage and four. They were loudly cheered on their arrival, and proceeded up the hill to Westhall to join the directors and county gentry who had there met, along with the tenantry of the district. About half-past one, this assemblage moved off from Westhall in order of procession, preceded by a military band. An area round the spot on which the interesting ceremony was to take place had been fenced off, and within the fence seats had been constructed all round, for the accommodation of the ladies. At short intervals around the circle flags fluttered, and the immense holiday-attired crowd and back-ground of elegant equipages, with their fair occupants, formed altogether such a spectacle as has never before been witnessed in the Garloch. The effect of the gay scene was heightened by the surrounding landscape.

The Rev. Mr. Cushnie opened the proceedings with an impressive and appropriate prayer.

Lady Elphinstone then advanced, and, taking the spade, which was handed to her by Sir James, neatly turned up the first turf, amid enthusiastic cheers, and laid it on the barrow, which, amid renewed shouts of cheering, was rolled off by Master Elphinstone, and emptied. The barrow is of beautifully carved and polished oak, and bears the arms of the Railway Company and of Sir James Elphinstone. The spade having a finely burnished ornamental blade.

The initiatory steps having been completed, Lady Elphinstone retired amid loud cheering, and renewed acclamations greeted Sir James, as, laying hold of one of the *narries'* shovels, he dug up a large barrowful of the earth, which he trundled off in a business-like and workman-like style. His example was followed, amid reiterated shouts, by the Lord Provost, Sir A. L. Hay, Provost Blaikie, Master Graham Elphinstone, several of the directors, and other gentlemen.

Sir James Elphinstone then said: "We are met here to-day to turn the first turf of the Great North of Scotland Railway; and the next time I shall have the pleasure of meeting you will be to drink success to it when it is completed to Elgin. (Loud cheers.) We have, within the last eighteen months, got money sufficient to pay every inch of ground to Huntly. (Cheers.) We will go to Huntly, and pay as we go. We will then carry on the railway to Aberdeen. (Cheers.) The



COMMENCEMENT OF THE GREAT NORTH OF SCOTLAND RAILWAY, AT WESTHALL, ABERDEENSHIRE.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

STATUE OF THE LATE GEORGE STEPHENSON.

A VERY appropriate ornament is about to be added to the Great Hall of the Euston-station of the London and North-Western Railway—in a statue of the late George Stephenson, who effected more than any other engineer towards the development of the railway system.

The statue, which is of fine Carrara marble, is ten feet in height; and when erected, will rest on a pedestal of the same material, in the centre of the grand Entrance-hall at Euston-station. The figure is habited in the costume of the times; and holds in the right hand a scroll, upon which is inscribed the Elevation of an Aqueduct. The sculptor is Mr. E. H. Baily, R.A.

SEÑOR LOPEZ, PRESIDENT OF PARAGUAY.

INTELLIGENCE has just been received from Buenos Ayres, dated Nov. 2, stating the recognition of the independence of Paraguay to have been formally confirmed, since the departure of General Urquiza, by the Chambers of this province, who have also declared their adhesion to the principle of throwing open to the flags of all friendly nations the navigation of the Parana.

We take this opportunity of presenting our readers with a Portrait of the present ruler of Paraguay, with a brief sketch of the events which led to his elevation.

On the overthrow of the authority of the Spanish Vice-Royalty in South America, in 1810, the province of Paraguay refused to acknowledge the Provisional Junta established at Buenos Ayres, and at once declared its independence. An armed force was, in consequence, sent from Buenos Ayres, under the command of General Belgrano, to reduce Paraguay to obedience; but the army of the Junta was defeated, and the General was glad to capitulate on any terms. The new State, elated with this success, then declared its absolute independence, not only of Buenos Ayres, but also of Spain. A triumvirate Government was set up, and Dr. Gaspar de Francia was named Secretary. A convocation of a general assembly of deputies from the towns and villages was next held, when Dr. Francia laid before them a scheme for a constitution, which was adopted by acclamation: his plan being the investiture of the supreme Government in two Consuls, with unlimited powers. This constitution was proclaimed on the 12th of October, 1813, and Dr. F. Yegros and Dr. Francia were named the two Consuls. Dr. Yegros shortly afterwards resigned, and Dr. Francia was elected, by the General Congress, sole Dictator of Paraguay: he died in September, 1840, at the advanced age of 85, leaving a character behind him of one of the most unscrupulous tyrants that ever had the destinies of a nation entrusted to him. The ascendancy was now hotly contested, and the Government was alternately seized by the conflicting parties, until the end of the year 1841; when Señor Charles Antonio Lopez, the present President, was placed at the head of the nation by the soldiery, as First Consul. During the above period, that is, from 1813 to 1841, Paraguay, although *de facto* independent, was an isolated state, holding no commercial intercourse with its neighbours, or with European powers; for, although both Francia and his successors were anxious to open a direct trade between England and Paraguay, still no foreigners were permitted to resort further up the river Paraguay than the little village of Nembuco, about twenty leagues above Corrientes. This was owing to the peculiar situation in which the Republic was placed, with regard to its rivers: it being separated from Bolivia and the Buenos Ayrean provinces of Salta and Tucumén, by the river Paraguay, and from Brazil, and the Buenos Ayrean provinces, of Entre Rios and Misiones, by the river Parana, so that endless disputes arose between Paraguay and Buenos Ayres respecting the navigation of these rivers.

On the 25th of November, 1842, the Independence of the Republic was formally proclaimed at Assumption; and, on the 14th of March, 1844, in conformity with the fundamental law of the Republic, sanctioned by the National Congress, Lopez was nominated President of Paraguay, for ten years, and he has since been recognised by several European and South American States. The prospect of a direct trade between Paraguay and England is now not far distant, since General Urquiza, as Provisional Dictator of Buenos Ayres, has formally recognised the independence of Paraguay, and has concluded a treaty with Lopez, by which the free navigation of the rivers Paraguay and Parana is secured to the Republic of La Plata and the Empire of Brazil.

NEW EXPRESS ENGINES ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE magnificent new Engines now worked on the London and North-Western Railway for the express trains are of the largest class of passenger engines yet introduced upon the narrow gauge. They combine several important improvements, which have recently been patented by Mr. McConnell, the locomotive engineer of the company.

From the admirable proportions of all the parts, both of engines and tenders, they retain a beautiful and symmetrical appearance, notwithstanding the great power and strength of the working portion.

The cylinders, which are compactly arranged inside the framing, are 18 inches in diameter, with a 24-inch stroke. The pistons, which are of wrought iron, forged solid with the rod, are, with increased strength, at least one-third lighter than when constructed on the ordinary principle; while the very rapid reciprocating motion of this part of the machine makes any reduction of weight a matter of importance. This will be better understood when it is known that it makes a difference in this instance of not less than 40 tons per minute on each piston when travelling at the rate of 60 miles per hour. The driving-wheels are 7 feet 6 inches diameter, and the axles are hollow—a mode of construction which ensures greater soundness in the manufacture, with the advantage of increased strength, and a reduction of fully one-third of the weight. The bearing-springs and buffers are of india-rubber, prepared by an improved process, rendering its elasticity uniform, and remaining unaffected by any changes of temperature.

The more peculiar improvement introduced into the construction of these engines, however, consists in the arrangement of the boiler and tubes: thus, a portion of the fire-box is continued, or rather projected, into the barrel or circular part of the boiler, and forms a recess or chamber

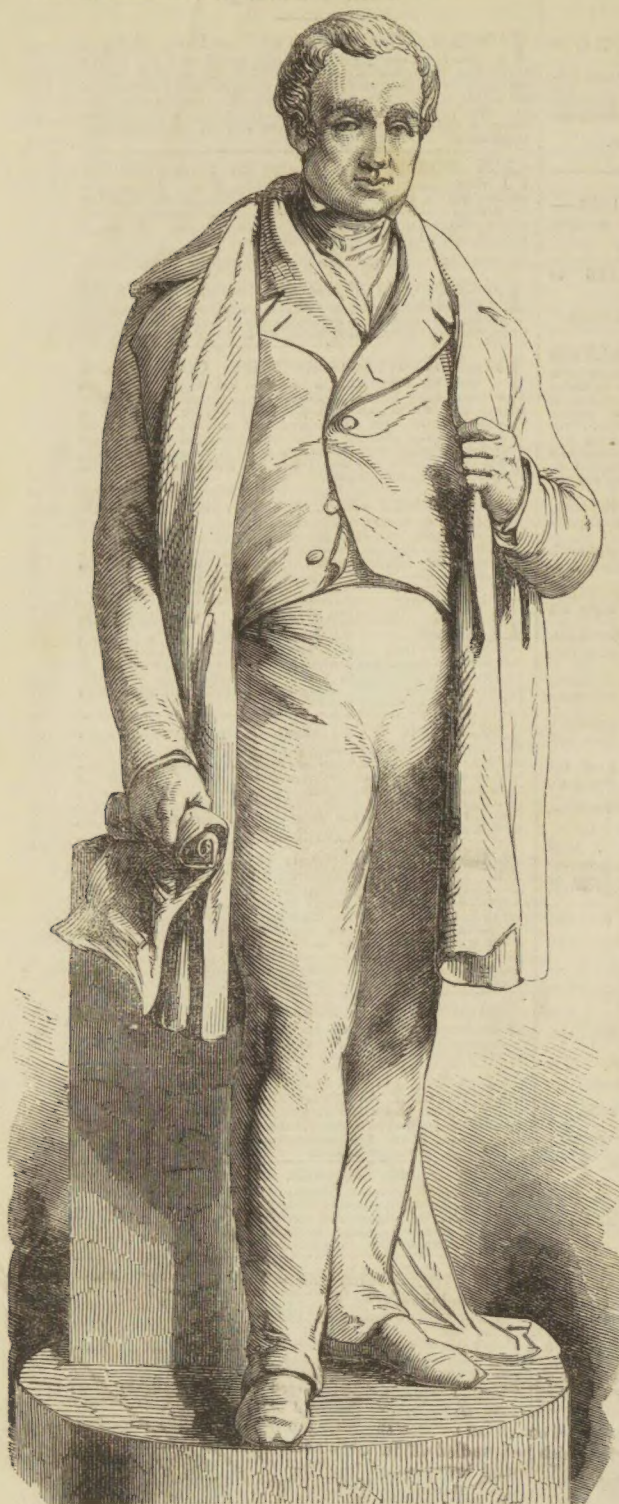


SEÑOR LOPEZ, PRESIDENT OF PARAGUAY.

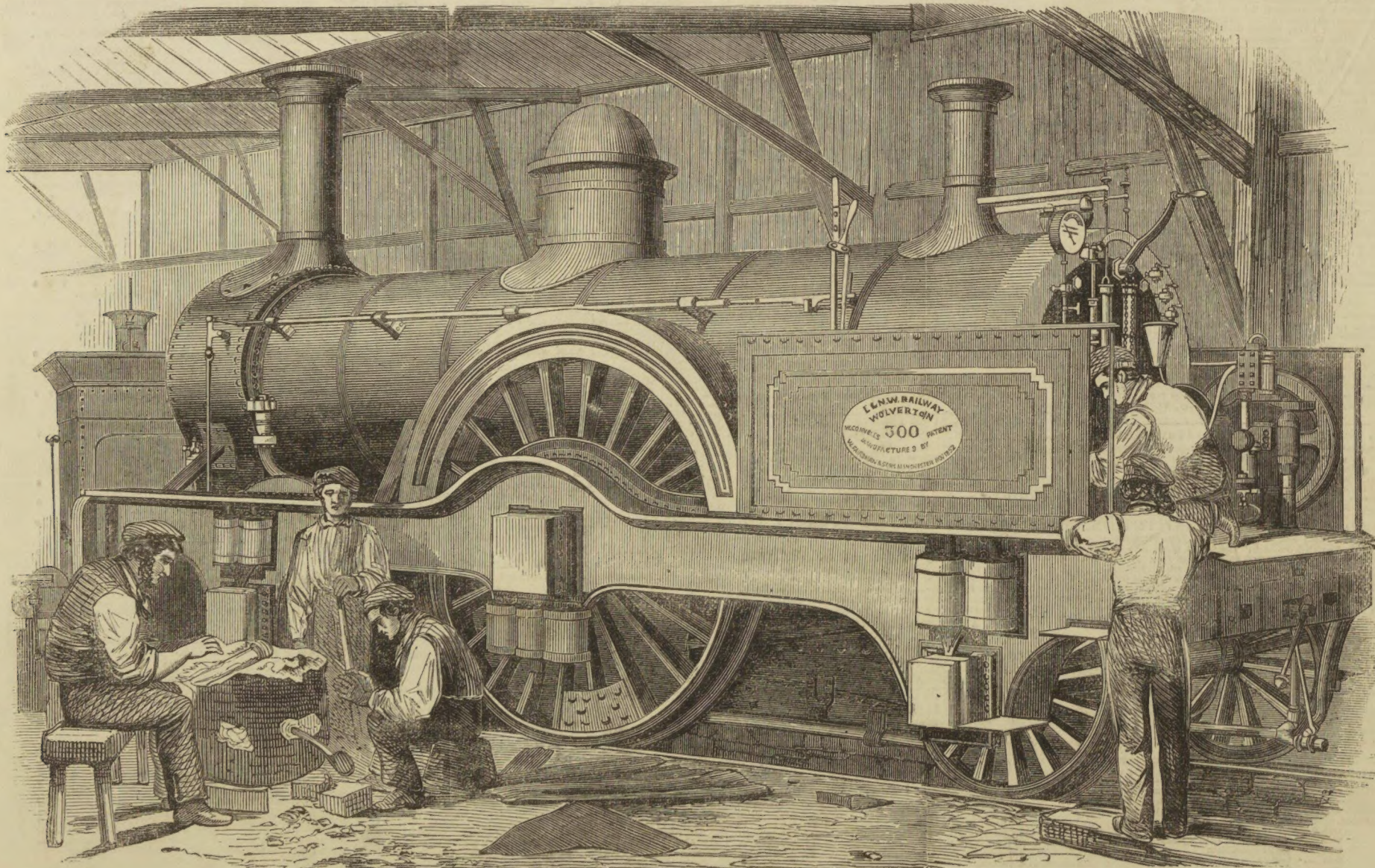
for the more perfect combustion of the gases evolved from the fuel in the fire-box, into which a further supply of air is admitted through hollow stays employed for the support of the combustion chamber, and communicating with the external atmosphere. Owing to this projection, the tubes traversing the boiler are much shorter than usual; but, although the gases pass off at a higher temperature, a more intense heat is generated by the same quantity of fuel; thus, effecting great economy in the use of coals. Experiments have been made with anthracite coal, which has been found to answer perfectly, making this improvement of great importance where coke cannot be procured, unless at an extravagant price. The application of a supercharging vessel, which has been introduced into the smoke-box for the purpose of heating and drying the steam, adds a vast amount of force to its action, and greatly reduces the consumption of fuel. Not less than 50 per cent of elastic force being obtained by this application. Small steam pumping-engines are fixed upon the foot-plates to keep up the supply of water in the boilers at all times. By this means the necessity of running out on the line, for the supplying water in the boiler, is obviated.

Bourdon's pressure gauge is an appendage of great convenience to the driver, by its indicating the actual pressure of steam in the boilers.

Altogether, these engines may be considered an important step in the progress of locomotion upon railways.



MARBLE STATUE OF THE LATE GEORGE STEPHENSON, BY E. BAILY, R.A.; TO BE PLACED IN THE EUSTON STATION OF THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.



NEW EXPRESS ENGINE FOR THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.